

2002 Almanac Edition

Continental Marine



Spring 2002

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VMGR-234

60 Years and still flying

A True Hero

Remembering Sgt. Maj. Curtain

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<http://www.mfr.usmc.mil>

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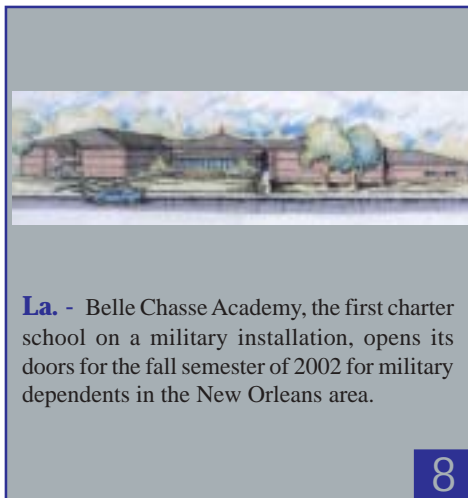
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Editor's note: We need your help to tell the Marine Corps story! Send us any photos you may have from your Annual Training, along with background information on your AT and unit to Webmaster@mfr.usmc.mil. Get published in the Continental Marine. For more information, call (504) 678-4179.

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MARFORRES

COMMAND PAGE

Lt. Gen. Dennis M. McCarthy, Commander, Marine Forces Reserve



“If it ain’t broke.....”

Transformation of the military is a top priority of Defense Secretary Rumsfeld, as directed by President Bush. I’m proud to report that the process has already begun for the Marine Corps Reserve. But why?

Marine Forces Reserve has been phenomenally successful since it was formed in 1994, but no organization can stand still in a rapidly changing world. The Marine Corps has always been “ahead of the curve,” looking forward to new challenges when others were looking back.

Last June, the Commandant of the Marine Corps directed me to conduct an internal review of the Reserve force structure. His main objectives were: (1) closer linkage of Reserve Component units to the Active Component; (2) streamlining/flattening the organization of the Reserves; (3) creating new capabilities needed by the 21st century Marine Corps; and (4) improved mobilization capability. No growth or loss of structure or changes to MarForRes’ geographic laydown were authorized.

In March, the Commandant approved changes to the Reserve force structure that were recommended by the Marine Forces Reserve Comprehensive Review Group. Changes include:

- The commanding generals of 4th Marine Division and 4th Force Service Support Group will be dual-hatted as Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF) Augmentation Com-

mands (MACs). The MACs will be collocated with I and II MEFs and each will be responsible for integrating about half of the MarForRes units into the MEF training, exercise and employment plans (TEEPs). Both generals will retain their New Orleans offices.

- The commanding general of the 4th Marine Aircraft Wing will focus on aviation sustainment, safety/standardization and “blue dollar” management. The general and his staff will continue to work from their current headquarters in New Orleans.

- The commanding general of Marine Corps Reserve Support Command will sharpen his focus on mobilization issues.

- New capabilities will be created, including anti-terrorism/force protection units, CBIRF augmentation, an information technology detachment, more individual mobilization augmentees and Reserve musicians.

The Comprehensive Review Implementation Group is already at work on the plan of action and milestones to implement the changes. Although no existing units will move, some will have their structure redesigned to be more efficient and provide manpower for the new capabilities.

The end result of these efforts will be a stronger MarForRes, relevant and capable, and, as always, ready, willing and able to meet the needs of the Marine Corps in the 21st century.

The target date for full implementation is Oct. 2003.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dennis M. McCarthy".

Sgt. Maj. Richard T. Thornton, Sgt. Maj., Marine Forces Reserve



Today I read the accident statistics for FY-01 and FY-02, they are not indicative of our capabilities as Marines. We have the best led, most professional force in history, yet our gains in personal safety have been minimal at best. Our Commandant

and Commander have asked repeatedly, “What can we do better in the area of personal safety?” The answer to that question should be important to all Marines because with every incident we, collectively, lose another well-trained, invaluable asset for a day, a month or forever and that is professionally unacceptable.

Continued on next page

Sgt. Maj. Thornton continued

Professionally we are constantly evaluating risk yet we often discard risk management techniques, ORM, at the end of the day as if professionalism applies in the workplace only. No Marine wants to become a liability to his/her fellow Marines, however, when we fail to exercise ORM twenty-four hours daily that's exactly the chance we take. Drinking while driving, exceeding the posted speed limits, cutting grass with sandals on, spraying lighter fluid on hot coals or operating a saw without safety goggles on may seem cool but it's not befitting a professional Marine. As the spring and summer travel season approaches ORM should and must remain foremost in our minds.

ORM must be a part of your professional and personal lives.

Sgt. Maj. Thornton

The old line in the TV series Hill Street Blues, "Let's be careful out there" rings true today. ORM must be a part of your professional and personal lives. Practice and reinforce the contents of MCO 5100.19 and Force Orders 5100.15 and 5101.2, not just during a safety stand-down, but also as a part of your daily pass-down. Let's work to keep this Force Ready, Willing, Able and Safe.

Semper Fidelis

Editor's note: More information on ORM can be found at www.hqmc.usmc.mil/safety.nsf.



4th MarDiv bids farewell to Sgt. Maj. Kinney and welcomes Sgt. Maj. Cruz

Lt. Col. Tim Hoyle

4th Marine Division, New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS – Sgt. Maj. Anthony A. Cruz relieved Sgt. Maj. William T. Kinney at a post and relief ceremony here, March 1, and took the helm as 4th Marine Division sergeant major.

"Like many of us on active duty, I knew nothing of what the Reserves were really like before I came here. I thank the Marine Corps for educating me on what great people these young reserve Marines are and what they bring to the table," Kinney said.

Maj. Gen. Jack A. Davis, the commanding general of the 4th MarDiv, praised the outgoing sergeant major for being his "eyes and ears" across the division.

"The highest compliment that I can give is that if we were going into combat today you would be someone I would seek to serve beside

me as the sergeant major," Davis said.

Kinney received the Meritorious Service Medal for his exemplary service with division.

Kinney had served the division since May 2000 and is believed to be the first sergeant major to have visited all 106 sites where its units are located. His next post will be as the sergeant major for I Marine Expeditionary Force at Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Cruz previously served as the sergeant major of Marine Aircraft Group 42 in Marietta, Ga. As the Division's Comprised of more than 20,000 Marines, the 4th Marine Division is the largest of the Marine Corps' four divisions.



Lance Cpl. Damian McGee

Sgt. Maj. William T. Kinney



Lance Cpl. Damian McGee

Sgt. Maj. Anthony A. Cruz

MARFORRES

News Line

HMH-772 to deploy with 24th MEU



Photo courtesy of MAG-49

All nine CH-53's from Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron-772 lift off for their move from Willow Grove Naval Air Station, Pa. to Marine Corps Air Station New River, N.C. on Feb. 14. HMH-772 was activated on Jan. 28 to provide operational tempo relief for 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing. The unit will deploy with 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit this summer.

MOBILIZATION UPDATE

The following units have been activated in support of the Global War on Terrorism:

Detachment A, Intelligence Battalion
Detachment A, CI/HUMINT Company
Detachment A, I Marine Expeditionary Force Augmentation Command Element
Detachment A, II Marine Expeditionary Force Augmentation Command Element
Detachment A, 3rd Civil Affairs Group
Detachment A, Headquarters and Service Company, 4th Marine Division
Company B, 1st Battalion, 23rd Marines
Detachment A, Company B, 1st Battalion, 23rd Marines
Weapons Platoon, Detachment A, Company B, 1st Battalion, 23rd Marines
Detachment A, Headquarters Company, 23rd Marines
2nd Battalion, 23rd Marines:
 Headquarters and Service Company
 E Company
 F Company (-)
 Weapons Platoon, F Company
 G Company
 Weapons Company
Headquarters Company, 25th Marines
TOW Platoon, Headquarters Company, 25th Marines
2nd Battalion, 25th Marines:
 Headquarters and Service Company
 E Company
 F Company
 G Company
 Weapons Company
 TOW Section, Weapons Company
Detachment A, Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 234
Detachment A, Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 452
Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 769
Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 772
Detachment A, 4th Force Service Support Group Forward (West)

Mobile, Ala.
Washington, D.C.
Camp Pendleton, Calif.
Camp Lejeune, N.C.
Camp Pendleton, Calif.
New Orleans, La.
Bossier City, La.
Austin, Texas
Houston, Texas
San Bruno, Calif.

Encino, Calif.
San Bruno, Calif.
Salt Lake City, Utah
Las Vegas, Nev.
Los Alamitos, Calif.
Port Hueneme, Calif.
Worcester, Mass.
Chicopee, Mass.

Garden City, N.Y.
Harrisburg, Pa.
Albany, N.Y.
Dover, N.J.
Garden City, N.Y.
Broken Arrow, Okla.
Ft. Worth, Texas
Stewart ANGB, N.Y.
Edwards AFB, Calif.
NAS Willow Grove, Pa.
Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Marines take part in Super Bowl pre-game

Sgt. Jennifer M. Antoine

Marine Forces Reserve, New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS – Some members of the Marine Forces Reserve Band got to share the spotlight during the Super Bowl XXXVI pre-game patriotic extravaganza here, Feb. 3. The Marines joined members of the Army, Navy,



Sgt. Jennifer M. Antoine

Marines reenact the Iwo Jima flag raising during the pre-game ceremony.



Sgt. Jennifer M. Antoine

A chorus of service members sings backup during the Super Bowl XXXVI pre-game ceremony.

Air Force, Coast Guard and New Orleans policemen and firemen in the “Heroes Chorus.” The chorus provided backup vocals for recording artists Mary J. Blige and Marc Anthony while they sang “America the Beautiful.”

Four Marines and a Sailor also recreated the famous flag raising at Iwo Jima after the National Anthem. “When they put the spotlight on us, we felt the ground shake from the crowd’s roar,” said Cpl. Sam N. Rumpak, a bassoon player in the Marine Forces Reserve Band.

2001 Toys for Tots results are in...

QUANTICO, Va. – The 2001 Toys for Tots Campaign was another great success.

“Considering the massive fundraising and assistance that the country did in reaction to the September 11th attacks, we still had a great year,” said Brian Murry, Toys for Tots vice-president of operations and affiliate relations.

There were 13.2 million toys collected and distributed to 6.1 million children. Marine Corps reserve units across the country collected over \$6.3 million for the Toys for Tots foundation. That amount did not include the corporate monetary donations or assistance that companies provided, such as posters for the drive, which was about \$50,000. There was over \$40 million total collected this year, which puts this year’s drive in the top three most successful in the history of Toys for Tots.

“The country has a great love affair with the Marine Corps and when it associates with a charitable donation, such as toys for children, it is a winning combination,” said Murray.



MARFORRES

News Line



Garden City, N.Y.

The scene was the same across the country—drill centers filled to capacity with Marines, sailors, families and friends gathering one last time before the units depart. Activated units used Family Day to educate family members about the benefits and resources available to them while their spouse is serving on active duty.

“The key to family readiness is getting the information out there,” said Lt. Col. Patrick Coffey, of Shoreham, N.Y., who helped to coordinate events at Garden City, N.Y. “There is a lot these families need to know and we are doing whatever we can to help them.”

Representatives from service organizations were on hand, including TRICARE to explain health benefits, the Red Cross to discuss what to do if there is an emergency at home, and members of the Key Volunteer Network to let families know that they would be there for support. Family members could also get ID cards and vehicle decals.

The mood on Family Day was a mixture of sadness and anticipation, but overall lots of patriotism. Communities turned out to show their support for the Marines, too.

Family Days help families prepare for mobilization



Worcester,
Mass.



Las Vegas, Nev.

Official USMC photos

Belle Chasse Academy opens for fall semester

Sgt. Jennifer M. Antoine

Marine Forces Reserve, New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS –

All parents want their children to have a safe and quality education. For years military parents have been concerned about public school here, some opting to pay the high price for private schools or leave their families behind when they come here for duty. This fall, the Belle Chasse Academy, the first charter school on a military installation, will offer convenience, high quality education, and safety all in one.

The school is currently under construction at NAS, JRB, New Orleans in Belle Chasse, La. It will be open for grades kindergarten through five for the 2002 fall semester.

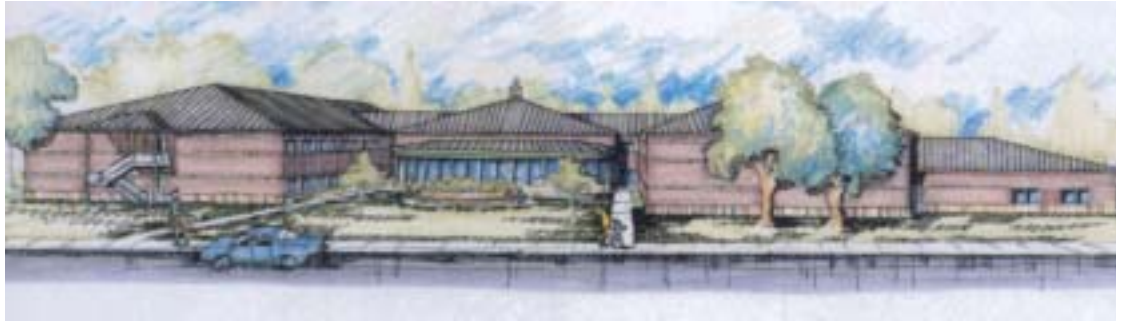
The process of building the school

"As we forge a new path by opening the first ever charter school on a military installation, we move one step closer to making New Orleans a duty station of choice for the 21st century."

Lt. Col. Jane Fitzgerald

began three years ago in 1999, when military officials here were addressing the quality of life for military personnel in the New Orleans area. Affordable housing and poor schools were at the top of the list.

When informed by the Department of Defense that there was no possibility of building a DOD school, they ap-



Belle Chasse Academy is scheduled to open its doors for the 2002 fall semester at the Naval Air Station, Joint Reserve Base, New Orleans, in Belle Chasse, La.

proached La. Board of Elementary and Secondary Education Member, Leslie Jacobs, who suggested opening a charter school.

As a Louisiana public charter school, BCA will receive state funding and be held to state standards. Because it is state funded, the school will be able to accept students from military families stationed anywhere in the New Orleans area.

The charter school will be open to all children, dependents of military families and non-military students alike. Because BCA's mission is to provide a quality community school that fosters an educational environment for the military child, the board of directors developed a way to tier the enrollment and give higher enrollment priority to military dependents. First and second priorities are for dependents living on and off base. Third and fourth priorities are for dependents of school employees and retired military personnel, and the fifth priority has been designated for all other students.

The new facility is 90,000 square feet with all new technology. Each of the 37 classrooms are being built to encompass 1,000 square feet of working area. All

rooms will have at least four computers that will be Internet accessible, in addition to a computer lab, which will be attached to the resource center.

"I am very excited about the state-of-the-art educational facility we are building and confident the buildings will be ready for occupancy in the fall of 2002," said Marine Lt. Col. Jane Fitzgerald, military project team leader.

The academy will have a full special needs department to accommodate the needs of every child. It will also be supported with a fulltime nurse and counseling service for children who may deal with stress associated with frequent relocations, new friends and separation anxiety.

For the first year, BCA officials estimate enrollment to be about 600 students but expect to expand to 900 or more students in subsequent years. The school's charter allows for the school enrollment to expand to 1,400 students on multiple sites.

Plans are being made to construct a new facility in the fourth year of operations that will serve grades 6 to 8. In year five, these students are scheduled to move to a new facility that will allow more students to attend.

MARFORRES

News Line

The current youth center will be removed to make room for the new school and a new youth center will be built on school property that will be used for before and after care. During non-school hours and weekends the base Morale, Welfare, and Recreation department will use the new youth center to run programs and activities. The computer lab and resource center will also be open for use during non-school hours.

The construction of 500 to 1000 new homes aboard the base by August 2002, was inspiration for the new school. The construction will result in the largest concentration of students in the Plaquemines Parish. The new school will alleviate overcrowding in current schools and will also lower the student-teacher ratio. Each class will have a maximum of 25 students and will have one teacher and one certified teacher assistant. Children who live in base housing will be able to walk to school.

Belle Chasse Academy, Inc., a non-profit organization, was established in January 2001. It has an 11-member board of

directors comprised of community leaders, parents, and certified teachers, all of whom have an affiliation with the military.

The board of directors will be responsible for all fiscal, personnel, and operational issues of the school. In addition, they will oversee the educational management organization hired to provide assistance to school daily operations.

"This school is a giant leap forward in improving the educational opportunities for our children and enhancing the quality of life for military members in the New Orleans area," said Fitzgerald. "As we forge a new path by opening the first ever charter school on a military installation, we move one step closer to making New Orleans a duty station of choice for the 21st century."

Registration for the 2002 fall semester is available on-line at BelleChasseAcademy.org. For more information, contact Jane Fitzgerald at 504-433-5850.



Marine for Life program to ease transition

Maj. Gary Dean

Headquarters, Marine Corps

Marine Reserve sites will play a major role in the Commandant's new Marine for Life program to sponsor Marines transitioning to civilian life.

The program is designed to extend the Marine Corps family across the country so that Marines can stay connected even after they leave active service. Marine for Life will provide hosts and Marine-friendly network resources in communities.

The first phase of implementation is under way at 52 Reserve and Recruiting facilities in 44 states. Reserve Marines are being hired on ADSW to serve as "Hometown Links" at each of the sites through the end of the fiscal year.

During fiscal year 2003 the program will extend to all Reserve and more recruiting sites and provide a more permanent manning solution.

The Hometown Links will assemble and develop the Marine and Marine-friendly networks and connections in their area in order to sponsor Marines home when they leave active service—just like Marines are sponsored when PCSing to a new command. The primary area of assistance will be employment; however, other types of information and assistance will also be provided (e.g., housing, schools, adult education, etc.).

Each hometown network will have unique characteristics and relationships, and volunteers will be relied upon to provide assistance as network resources. As the local networks mature, they will provide a self-sustaining nationwide volunteer network to support transitioning Marines.

The other major component of the program is an electronic network, including a website, database, and free e-mail accounts to transitioning Marines, which will be the "electronic backbone" enabling the smooth functioning of the human network. Currently under development at Marine Corps Systems Command, it will be some months before the network is developed and fielded. In the meantime, the human network of Hometown Links and network resources is being assembled and developed.

The goal is a nationwide Marine and Marine-friendly network available to all Marines honorably leaving active service that will improve their transition to civilian life and ensure that no Marine who honorably wore the Eagle, Globe, and Anchor is lost to the Marine Corps family.

For additional information, including the location of the first 52 sites, visit the Marine for Life website at www.MarineForLife.com.

If you live in and are interested in becoming a Hometown Link in one of the 52 selected sites, contact Maj. Gary Dean at (703) 784-9140, deangd@manpower.usmc.mil.

MARFORRES

Focus on the Force

We never leave our brothers behind

Maj. David C. Andersen

New York Public Affairs

GROUND ZERO, NEW YORK —

Pain shot through my back in the late night hours of 6 March 2002 from the weight of the stretcher, but Marines always complete the mission. With Sgt. Maj. Michael S. Curtin, 45, USMCR (RET) & NYPD, in my left hand and his wife and daughter only feet in front of me, sense of duty led the way as it has for many men better than I for hundreds of years.

As we picked up the Sergeant Major, I thought back to only hours ago when my U.S. Marine Corps Public Affairs Office in Midtown-Manhattan received the call that we stood ready for since September 11. In fact, I received four calls in about three minutes from numerous Emergency Services Unit men — better known as “E-MEN” throughout the famed New York City Police Department. The messages were all the same, “Dave, get down here - we found the Sergeant Major.”

We proceeded down off of a small plateau on the North side of the dig,

which probably would have put us in sub-level five (five stories underground) of Tower One. My mind wandered to Sergeant Major’s wife Helga, a former Marine, and his three daughters Jennifer, 15; Heather, 14; and Erika, 12. The native of Rocky Point, N.Y. had become a folk hero in the NYPD as he ran his Truck like a platoon - a platoon of Marines. “TRUCK-2” is located on 125th Street in Harlem and upon entering one might think they have entered a company office at Camp Lejeune or a barracks at Camp Schwab as proud men go about their business with Marine Corps haircuts and squared-away uniforms - Sgt. Maj. Curtin had obviously been here.

Leveling out at about sub-level seven in a pool of soupy-mud heading south toward the exit-ramp, I glanced back over my shoulder and saw the Ground Zero flag that I grabbed out of our office on the way downtown. It had been signed by the victim’s families months prior and we were able to get it to the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit on the USS Bataan who then took it ashore to fly it in the face of terrorism over the Kandahar Airport in Afghanistan. Who gave it to us? E-Men that Curtin knew. Curtin had loved the American Flag, his family had told me, and it was fitting that he lay next to me covered in the flag that he raised in Kuwait City a decade ago. That flag had been waiting for him in a box in the ESU Headquarters that I noticed on occasion marked “THIS FLAG IS FOR SGT. MIKE CURTIN ONLY!!!!!!” And of course to make it complete - the Marine Corps colors were also present and were carried by two of his TRUCK-2 E-MEN.

As we started up the bridge, the voice of what had to be a former Marine rang out throughout the 16-acre complex - “present arms!” The exit-ramp was lined with hundreds of proud members of the NYPD, ESU, PAPD, FDNY and Steel Workers with the night lit up by thousands of flashing emergency-vehicle lights. As we pushed forward keeping step with former Marine and Police Commissioner Ray Kelly, I thought of the infamous story that made the Sergeant Major a Marine Corps folk hero. It was not the story of his rescue efforts at the first Trade Tower’s bombing in 1993, but rather the story of him spotting the red stripe of Capt. Randolph L. Guzman’s, USMC, dress-blue trousers in the rubble of the Oklahoma City bombing. He located a group of former Marines and then took approximately seven hours to pull him out as he said, “we never leave our brother’s behind.” He managed to free the “Skipper” who was probably watching this procession waiting to thank Mike one day. They carried him out draped in an American flag with his dress blue trousers sticking out with his shined shoes pointing toward heaven’s gates. All was quiet. No talking. No machinery. Only the sound of a million thoughts - much like I could hear at this very moment heading out of the hole.

As we approached the top, I noticed that an ESU Truck was waiting for him - his truck...TRUCK-2. We hoisted the Sergeant Major up high - hands reaching with fingertips out stretched - and I wondered if anyone shared my thoughts at that very moment. It was reminiscent of the out stretched fingers of another famous group of Marines years ago on a small island in the South Pacific.



Robert Mecca

A procession carries the remains of Sgt. Maj. Mike Curtin from Ground Zero.

MARFORRES

Focus on the Force

Finally, with one last adjustment needed to secure the stretcher, a body was needed to jump up and climb to the top. Who scrambled to the top of the huge truck? Who else - Helga, his wife. In front of hundreds of tough cops - she made the last adjustment to take care of her husband much like I imagine he did for her for many years. That simple act was breath-taking - an act that the Sergeant Major represented for years - selflessly helping other people and NOT wanting to be recognized for it.

We then headed North on the FDR. The motorcade was long and bright as we approached the 0100 hour. All traffic was stopped and civilians stood outside their halted cars lining the roads with hands over hearts and hats off. Motorcycle cops at every intersection had salutes at the ready. At the morgue, my Gunny and I folded the flag under the watch of many eyes. Suddenly, TRUCK-2 members and other E-MEN stepped forward to aid us. We presented the colors to Helga and then took care of the Sergeant Major.

My ride home was long. Covered in mud that I never

"The streets of Heaven are now guarded by a Sergeant Major, how safe GOD is this evening!"

wanted to wash off. I hoped and prayed that we did the Curtin family proud as well as our nation. I think the Sergeant Major would have been proud. I also thought that although my Marines and I have seen the pile shrink on a daily basis - it is still there. It will always be there. The billions of tears that have fallen on this earth will never be washed away and we cannot forget. The mangled iron, smell and feeling is still lurking in that hole and I feel it everyday - you just cannot see, hear or smell it on the television.

I shed a tear coming out of "the pit" that night as I held my head high. I also felt like there were a band of brothers waiting at the top all dressed in our Corps' uniforms from day's gone bye. Then it really hit home that the bridge was symbolic - it was a long steep trek up seven stories, but Sergeant Major Curtin made it out of that hell-hole led by his wife, carried by the entire Corps, and the rest of his country that he loved so much - REMEMBER THE TOWERS.

CM

Sailors receive training to maintain field skills

Sgt. Trent Kinsey

Marine Forces Reserve, New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS — Hospital medics and dental technicians serving with Marine Forces Reserve units are using a new program to maintain and improve their skills as corpsman.

The Marine Forces Reserve Hospital Medic/Dental Technician Sustainment/Enhancement Training (SET) program, designed in the form of a book and two compact disks, and was distributed in October 2000.

The program is set up to be different from the one used by all active duty Naval hospital medics because of the reserves limited time during drill.

"Reserve Sailors receive limited training in the field because of the reserve lifestyle," said Master Chief Petty Officer Matthew D. Staden, command master chief, Marine Forces Reserve. "This program allows them to be able to keep up with their basic corpsman training when they are not at drill."

"A need for sustainment training was noticed by Col. Bill Gresslin and Col. Stan Jendresak, both retired," said Staden.

Jendresak and Gresslin saw that most sites did not have an easy-reference guide for the corpsman. They went to work putting a standardized training package together and then proposing it to MarForRes.

The program is something that many Naval medical personnel feel will boost the confidence level of the Marines being treated by corpsmen and of the corpsmen in their ability to administer medical attention.

"I believe there is already confidence in the abilities of corpsmen and the training they receive, but we hope this program will serve to maintain and boost the sense of confidence," said Rear Adm. Peter L. Andrus, Force Surgeon, MarForRes.

Although the program is not mandatory, Staden strongly recommends reserve corpsman review the information.

"This program is an easy reference guide," said Staden. "Sections can be pulled and copied for any use, from personal study to professional military education."

"This will help train both sailors and Marines in 'basic-buddy-aid,'" said Staden.

CM

USMCR Rifle Team is right on target

Sgt. Jennifer M. Antoine

Marine Forces Reserve, New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS — Four members of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Rifle Team were here Mar. 1 to present a display featuring their accomplishments during 2000-2001 to Lt. Gen. Dennis M. McCarthy, Commander, Marine Forces Reserve, as a token of appreciation for the support they receive from the command.

The walnut display, which measures approximately four feet by six feet and weighs about 100 pounds, depicts the seven individual and team awards that members have won over the last two years surrounding the 2001 National Trophy, a team trophy which is the most treasured award to any competitive marksman.

The team, which was established in 1939, has been tremendously successful in the past few years.

In 1998, Maj. John D. Hohan, a Fort Wayne, Ind., resident, took over as team captain and changed their focus. He wanted this team to realize that they could do more than just compete in the major matches; he wanted them to know they could win.

In August 2001, the marksmen took home the coveted National Trophy, nicknamed the “Dog of War”, at the annual two-week National Tournament in which active duty and reserve military members from all branches as well as civilian shooters compete.

The National Tournament is the most touted match because only the best of the best shooters compete there. This was the first time that the reserve Marines have taken first place since the tournament’s inception in 1903.

“It was wonderful to win this match. It validated us as a team. We knew that we had a chance at Nation-



Sgt. Jennifer M. Antoine

From left to right: Staff Sgt. David Karcher, Master Sgt. Harry Harrison, Sgt. Maj. Doyal Jackson and Maj. John Hoham present display to Lt. Gen. McCarthy.

als and were determined to win. We had always been second best but once we changed our focus and went back to the basic principles of marksmanship, we were able to move ahead,” said Staff Sgt. David B. Karcher, a Slidell, La., resident.

In addition to taking the National Trophy in 2001, the team also won the Hilton Trophy for high reserve team at the National Trophy Match in 2001. Shooters also received recognition for individual merit at the competition in 2000 and 2001.

Master Sgt. Harry D. Harrison won the 2001 Dupont Trophy, given by the National Rifle Association to the highest scoring competitor using the service rifle. Harrison, a K-9 police officer in Fountain Valley, Calif., was 3rd overall in 2000. Harrison also took home the General Smith Trophy as high Marine shooter at the National Trophy Team Match in 2000. Team-mate Master Sgt. Steve K. Wilson, of Moline, Ill., won this award in 2001.

The Hankins Trophy, awarded to highest shooting reserve competitor of all the services, was won by Harrison in 2000 and Wilson in 2001.

Staff Sgt. Ron J. Fuchs, a Glendale, Ariz., resident, won both the General John J. Pershing and General Shepard awards in 2001. These awards are for high individual in National Trophy team match and high Marine competitor with the highest aggregate score in the National Trophy Individual Rifle Match and the National Trophy Rifle Team Match (active or reserve), respectively.

Gunnery Sgt. Peter J. Proietto, of Washingtonville, N.Y., won the Citizen Soldier Trophy in 2000 for highest scoring reserve competitor in the National Trophy Individual Match.

Marines interested joining the reserve rifle team can contact Staff Sgt. Karcher at 504-678-4176 or Master Sgt. Patricia Washington, MarForRes G-3 at 504-678-8087.

CM

Rifle, pistol teams do more than compete

Sgt. Jennifer M. Antoine

Marine Forces Reserve, New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS – The United States Marine Corps Reserve Rifle and Pistol Team is comprised of about 30 Marines, half shoot rifle and half shoot pistol. Their mission sounds simple but they believe their job to be one of the most important in the Marine Corps: to provide training and support for the Marine Corps Reserve and to represent in the Marine Corps in various levels of marksmanship competition.

The first thing that comes to mind when their name is mentioned is competition firing, however, they will tell you that matches are the second priority in their mission. Although they do compete at regional, state, national and international matches, their primary mission is to provide training and support for the Marine Corps Reserve.

The first priority in the team's mission is to provide training and support, in two different ways, for reserve units. The first way is that the Marksmanship Training Unit (MTU) operates the Reserve Primary Marksmanship Instructors course, which is held twice a year at Weapons Battalion, Quantico, Va. This course is unique because it is the only reserve instructed and run course that active duty members can attend to receive an MOS. The instructors of these classes are qualified to train and graduate Marines in the MOS of 8530 (range coach) and 8531 (primary marksmanship instructor).

The second type of support the MTU gives is mobile training teams (MTT) that travel to the reserve sites to provide classroom and marksmanship fundamentals. They also assist units in the range requalification evolutions.

Because the team is funded by MarForRes, there is no cost to the unit to have the MTTs come to a unit. The instructors are available during weekend drills for classroom and range instruction.

“Our mission is to train Marines about marksmanship, both in the classroom and on the range,” said Maj. John D. Hoham, rifle team captain. “There is no financial impact on the reserve unit because we are funded by MarForRes,” he added.

The second priority of the team's mission is to represent the Marine Corps Reserve in various marksmanship competitions.

The team is made up of shooters from around the country and because their own SMCR unit functions and MTTs come before shooting at matches, the makeup of the team varies person to person each match. This makes it a bit difficult for team practice.

Active duty marksmanship teams are allowed to practice together for many months before major matches. Unfortunately for the reserve team, they meet only two times before they compete. This means that they must maintain their skills on their own.

The team believes that applying the basics they learned in boot camp helps them keep their skills up. They feel every Marine can shoot and compete at this high caliber. “The thing I hate to hear is, ‘I am not good enough to do that’,” says Staff Sgt. David B. Karcher, Slidell, La., resident. “We can make anyone good enough by helping them apply the basic rifle techniques.”

If you would like more information about having an MTT visit your reserve unit or becoming a member of the rifle or piston team, contact Staff Sgt.

Karcher at karcherdb@mfr.usmc.mil or call the MFR G-3 office at 504-678-8087.

CM



Staff Sgt. David B. Karcher

Members of the reserve rifle team pose next to the Hilton Award they won in August 2001. Front row: Master Sgt. Harry Harrison, Staff Sgt. Ronald Fuchs, Gunnery Sgt. Peter Proietto, Sgt. Maj. Doyle Jackson. Back row: Staff Sgt. James Graham, Master Sgt. Steve Wilson.

Reserve Marines stay sharp with their AAVs

Master Sgt. S. L. Lee

4th AAB, Little Creek, Va.

LITTLE CREEK, Va. – Operating a 26-ton amphibious assault vehicle is a daunting task, and for Marines in the reserves, there is only one weekend per month to train and stay sharp.

Reserve leathernecks based at Little Creek, Va., relish each opportunity for mechanized operational maneuvers. The Marines and Sailors of Company A (-), 4th AA Battalion, 4th Marine Division, want to be ready for mobilization in support of any contingency. They travel hundreds of miles each month to prepare for combat.

“These young men travel from Pennsylvania, North Carolina, and western Virginia to be part of this unit,” said Maj. Marty Korenek, the company’s commanding officer.

“Each of them has realized their contributions to the Marine Corps makes a difference in our nation’s defense,” added Korenek, who lives in Sneads Ferry, N.C.

In a recent drill weekend at Fort Pickett, Va., the company simulated a number of mechanized operations, including route reconnaissance, patrolling, immediate action drills, and fire support for embarked infantry. The Marines spent additional time away from their vehicles honing essential battle skills on the various ranges of Fort Pickett. These exercises were conducted with the highest regard for the safety of the participants and the environment.

As always, the Marines and Sailors maximized the limited time available during a drill weekend.

The Marine Corps’ unique, tracked vehicles are as capable of powering through the water as they are of moving Marines across nearly any terrain. The Marines of Co. A know they must be able to operate their AAVs on land and water. Likewise, they must be proficient in tactically deploying their vehicles and supporting the embarked infantry.

Marines see it as an invaluable experience when they are able to conduct ship-to-shore operations with their Navy counterparts. During this type of training the Marines are evaluated on their ability to plan and conduct an amphibious landing and push inland to secure the objective. Readiness of vehicles and weapons is always crucial to success.

“We learn some of the same things each weekend, but every time I work with the Marines I see them improve,” said Master Sgt. Keith LaFrance, the commander of 1st Platoon and a resident of Virginia Beach. “They become more efficient and work together better after every drill.

“We need to continue training this hard because we have a lot of new Marines and I want them to be ready,” added LaFrance, who served with the unit during Operation Desert Storm.

The Marines continue to train aggressively to be ready for any requirement. Over the next six months their training schedule will include qualification on the AAV weapons station, additional amphibious operations, continued battle skills training, pre-mobilization planning, and the unit’s annual training. They train hard now in order to be prepared to travel far and wide, at a moment’s notice, to deal with anyone who threatens our freedoms.

GM

Purple Heart awarded after 56-year-wait

Gunnery Sgt. Lonnie C. Phillips

PWST 4th AAB, Tampa, Fla.

TAMPA, Fla. – After 56 years, former Marine Cpl. Aaron E. Dawson of Frostproof, Fla., finally received recognition for sacrifices he made for his country. On March 2, Marines from 4th Assault Amphibian Battalion, here, awarded him the Purple Heart medal for wounds received on June 22, 1945, during the Battle of Okinawa.



Photo courtesy of 4th AAB

After a 56-year wait, Aaron Dawson receives a Purple Heart for wounds received during combat.

Dawson joined the Marine Corps Jan. 7, 1942, one month after the Pearl Harbor attack. He was in the first wave that invaded Guadalcanal on Aug. 7, 1942. He also participated in the battles of New Guinea and Cape Gloucester, New Britain. During the Battle of Okinawa, after killing three Japanese soldiers in

close action, he was wounded by a grenade.

“We were pulled off the front lines and sent to a rest area. Unbeknownst to us, Japanese were hidden in this location. One shot and mortally wounded the company runner. This so infuriated me that I immediately attacked and tried to kill that enemy soldier. He had me in his sights and I would have been a goner if his pistol hadn’t misfired. With this incredible fortune, I then killed him. Another soldier popped up to throw a grenade and I shot him too, but not before he threw the grenade three feet from me. I killed one more Japanese soldier before the grenade went off and wounded me,” said Dawson.

Dawson was discharged Nov. 29, 1945, but didn’t start pursuing the award until 1951. The records were attained in 1997, but they revealed no evidence of his combat wounds. He made numerous attempts to find witnesses and eventually found Tom Gruner, who was able to give an account of the entire event. Then Dawson’s old unit diary was found and provided confirmation that he was the 37th casualty from his unit during the battle on Okinawa.



Secretary Rumsfeld's 13 principles for the Department of Defense

1. Do nothing that could raise questions about the credibility of DoD. DoD must tell the truth and must be believed to be telling the truth or our important work is undermined.

2. Do nothing that is or could be seen as partisan. The work of this Department is non-partisan. We have to continuously earn the support of all the people of the country and in the Congress. To do so we must serve all elements of our society without favor.

3. Help to create an environment in DoD hospitable to risk-taking, innovation, and creativity. This institution must be able to house people of all types.

4. Work vigorously to root out any wrongdoing or corruption in DoD. Waste undermines support for the Department, and robs DoD activities of the resources they need.

5. Consistently demonstrate vigilance against waste. It is the taxpayers' money, earned by the people who work hard all across this land. We owe it to them to treat their dollars respectfully, and we owe it to the importance of our responsibilities to see that every dollar is spent wisely.

6. Reflect the compassion we all feel when innocent lives are lost, whether U.S. service people or innocents killed by collateral damage.

7. Demonstrate our appreciation for the cooperation we receive from other nations and for the valuable contributions coalition forces bring to our efforts - whether in peacetime by way of strengthening the deterrent, or in wartime by securing victory.

8. Because of the complexity of our tasks, DoD must work with other departments and agencies of the federal government in a professional manner, respectful of others' views but willing to raise issues to the next higher level up the chain of command, as necessary.

9. DoD personnel - civilian and military - must not compromise classified information. It is a violation of federal criminal law, and those who do so are criminals. They are also individuals who have lost their moorings and are willing to put the lives of the men and women in uniform at risk. They must be rooted out, stopped and punished.

10. The public needs and has the right to know about the unclassified activities of DoD. It is our obligation to provide that information professionally, fully and in good spirit.

11. Nothing is more important than the men and women who work in this Department - they are its heart and soul and its future. Our country's success depends on them. We must all treat them with respect, show our concern for them and for their lives and their futures, and find opportunities to express our full appreciation for all they do for our country.

12. The Legislative Branch is in Article I of the Constitution; the Executive Branch is Article II. That is not an accident. We must respect the Constitutional role of Congress, learn from those who have knowledge that can be helpful and work constructively, with revolving coalitions, to achieve the important goals of the Department and the country.

13. Finally, the President of the United States is our Commander-in-Chief. Those of us in DoD-military and civilian - believe in civilian control, are respectful of it and must be vigilant to see that our actions reflect that important Constitutional obligation.

■ Donald Rumsfeld

Marine Corps Martial Arts a big hit with MAG-49

Capt. Sean Clements

Marine Aircraft Group 49, Willow Grove, Pa.

WILLOW GROVE, Pa. – More than 70 Marines from Marine Aircraft Group 49 Headquarters began the new martial arts training program Feb. 2, here — in the classroom and on the training field.

Martial Arts Instructors Gunnery Sgt. Bobby Tagle and Staff Sgt. Timothy Aldrich conducted classroom training on principles and fundamentals of the new close combat course. They then took

students outside to demonstrate and practice the basic warrior stance — the starting position to most effectively deliver strikes — and punching drills.

The program is a belt-based martial arts system that awards different colored belts as Marines progress in skill level.

MAG-49's deputy commander, Col. Dave Papak, challenged all Marines in the unit to attain tan-belt status—the initial belt in the program — ahead of schedule. The Commandant of the Marine Corps has set a goal of having all Marines achieve the tan belt by the end of fiscal year 2003.

According to the course syllabus, the martial arts program is designed to give all Marines close-in fighting skills to handle situations across the spectrum of violence, from subduing an unruly subject with wrist locks or holds to dispatching an enemy with lethal combinations of punches, gouges and kicks.

“The new Martial Arts program is different from earlier programs in that it is offensive in nature,” said Tagle. “Because it is offensive rather than defensive, it brings out the warrior spirit and builds Marines’ confidence and endurance level.”

“The training gives Marines, who may not be combat arms, the chance to excel in warrior skills – it’s what the Marine Corps is all about.”

Sgt. Claudia Eldib

Although close combat training isn’t new to the Marine Corps, the way it is now being taught is a departure from past programs, like Linear Infighting Neutral-override Engagement

(LINE) training and combat hitting skills.

The new program employs a building block approach to teaching individual skills that can be combined and tailored to respond to diverse situations, starting from the basic warrior stance. The system is structured to be simple to teach, learn and employ, whereas, past systems, often incorporated complex chains of memorized moves, easily forgotten if not practiced often.

“The training seems more realistic compared to past hand-to-hand training,” said Lance Cpl. Jeremy Thoryk of Norristown, Pa., who participated in the day’s training. “Instead of teaching set moves to respond to certain situations, it teaches skills and techniques you can use how you need to.”

The training is also meant to foster and sustain a warrior spirit for Marines and to develop unit cohesion. According to Marines undergoing the rigorous training, it is both challenging and motivating.

“For a [reserve] like myself, it reawakens my warrior spirit — which can be difficult to do when switching between civilian and military life,” said Sgt. Claudia Eldib of Langhorne, Pa. “The training gives Marines, who may not be combat arms, the chance to excel in warrior skills – it’s what the Marine Corps is all about.”



Capt. Sean Clements

Cpl. David Cousins of Elizabethtown, Pa. (foreground) assumes the Basic Warrior Stance in preparation for punching drills. More than 70 Marines of MAG-49 Headquarters, Willow Grove, Pa., recently began the new Martial Arts program, punching, grappling and kicking their way to Tan-belt status, the first in the program’s belt qualification system.

Protect and serve: Times two

Sgt. Arthur DesLauriers

Marine Forces Reserve, New Orleans

WETHERSFIELD, Conn. — Since the tragic events of Sept. 11, Marine Reserves from all walks of life have been called to serve our nation. For two Marines from Headquarters Company, 25th Marines out of Worcester, Mass., the call to duty meant trading one form of public service for another.

Lance Cpl. Daniel DaCosta and Pfc. Jesus Ortiz were days short of graduation from the Connecticut Department of Corrections Correctional Academy when they received notice that their unit was being activated. The Marines were originally scheduled to graduate on Jan. 24, four days after they had to report for active duty at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Fortunately, Connecticut has a long history of supporting its military men and women. Corrections Commissioner John J. Armstrong arranged an accelerated graduation for the two Marines with a swearing in ceremony taking place in Armstrong's Office on Jan. 11. Armstrong administered the oath and both Marines were sworn in as Correctional Officers for the State of Connecticut.

At the impromptu ceremony attended by family members, friends, and local television media, Armstrong highlighted the Marines' dedication and devotion to service. "Not once but twice these dedicated young men have answered the call to duty, first with the Connecticut Department of Corrections and now in the defense of their country," he said.

Connecticut also passed a new statute providing compensa-



Brian Garnett

Lance Cpl. Daniel DaCosta stands at parade rest as Pfc. Jesus Ortiz is sworn in as a Correctional Officer. Both were granted an accelerated graduation to be activated in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

tion for the difference in pay for state employees who are called to serve in Operation Enduring Freedom, thus alleviating the economic hardship some families face from a decrease in wages. The bill also ensures medical coverage for families while the employee is on active duty.

Marines from the 25th Regiment have been deployed to augment and reinforce the II Marine Expeditionary Force at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

CM

Safety is Paramount

*** Traffic Safety – Traffic fatality is the number one killer and incapacitator of Marines. Don't drink and drive. The Marine Corps encourages Marines to drink alcoholic beverages responsibly. If planning to drink, have a designated driver.

*** Suicide Awareness – Suicide accounts for the second highest number of Marines killed every year. If someone shows suicidal tendencies, find someone to stay with the person, then seek help. Do not take anything involving suicide lightly.

*** "I want each and every one of you to ask yourself the question: 'Who's life am I going to save today?' This is not a rhetorical question and it's certainly not a question peculiar to combat. It's a question dealing with responsibility – responsibility to yourselves, family, and to your fellow Marines. How many of our fallen Marines would be alive today if someone – anyone – would have intervened to 'Break the chain' of tragic and preventable events that led to mishap," said Former Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Charles C. Krulak.

ZERO FATALITIES IS THE GOAL!!

Cold weather training without the snow

Maj. Dan Barger

PWST, Providence, R. I.

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Marines from General Support Motor Transport Company (-), here, went to nearby Camp Fogarty, Feb. 2-3, to conduct cold weather training, but the Northeast weather didn't cooperate.

Cold weather training is an annual event for the truck company, but this is the first year without snow. Even without snow, the Marines conducted classes on the proper use of snowshoes and cross-country skis.

"I'm disappointed the Marines won't be able to fully experience the cold weather gear," said Gunnery Sgt. Greg Walters, company gunnery sergeant, GSMT. "Without the snow they don't get a true idea of how the snowshoes and skis really work."

During the exercise, the Marines learned how to operate the artic space heater and set up artic 10-man tents. They also utilized the modular sleeping bag, with bivy cover, for when the temperatures fell below freezing.



Sgt. Dennis Arsenault

Pfc. John Stevens and other Marines test the feel of maneuvering with snow shoes.

The "dry cold" conditions made it ideal for Maj. Chris Murphy, company commander, GSMT, to take the advice of some of his noncommissioned officers who suggested a truck rodeo.

Camp Fogarty, a National Guard base located in Davisville, R.I., offers bivouac locations, but it doesn't have open spaces for maneuvering the M923 5-ton and MK48/14 LVS trucks, so the company organized a convoy to an abandoned lot five miles down the road.

"Through the truck rodeo, all training was linked back to the mission essential task list," said Maj. Ed Barrows, executive officer, GSMT Co. "This includes cold weather battle skills and individual training standards and military occupational specialty skill development."

The truck rodeo focused on three vehicle operator skills development events, organized in a round robin style course. Drivers and A-drivers built team skills by backing an M105A2-trailer and M149A2 water bull on a 90-degree turn into a parking space. They also maneuvered forward through a dogleg series of orange cones, and returned the 5-ton or LVS to the starting point in reverse. Finally, drivers brought five tons of rolling thunder to a screeching halt.



Sgt. Dennis Arsenault

Cpl. Matthew D. Mire demonstrates battle skills while using cross-country skis.

"Although warm, the Mickey Mouse boots make driving more difficult," said Pfc. John Lundquist, referring to the vapor barrier extreme cold weather boots the Marines were wearing.

As day turned to night, the heavy equipment mechanics went out on patrol. The cold night air, dry conditions and boots made it very difficult to maneuver through the woods with the degree of stealth that patrol leader Sgt. Mark A. Kneeland would have preferred. He knew the rest of the headquarters section lay somewhere waiting to ambush his patrol. His hand and arm signals were interrupted by the "rat-a-tat" of M16A1 fire as the patrol was ambushed.

Many lessons were learned during this memorable cold weather training, but none more clear than operating in the cold doesn't necessarily require snow.

CM

Marine Forces Reserve 2002 Almanac



Marine Forces Reserve



Lt. Gen. Dennis M. McCarthy, commander, MarForRes



Brig. Gen. (Select) James F. Flock, deputy commander, MarForRes



Sgt. Maj. Richard I. Thornton, sergeant major, MarForRes

MISSION The mission of Marine Forces Reserve (MarForRes) is to provide service to the community, augment and reinforce active Marine forces in time of war, national emergency or contingency operations, and provide personnel and operational tempo relief for the active forces in peacetime. As citizen-Marines, the men and women of MarForRes will be trained and educated to the highest levels, and provide rapid response when called upon. As versatile Continental Marines, MarForRes will be ever-ready to alleviate the intense personnel and operational tempo of active forces in peacetime.

HISTORY: This year marks the 86th year of the official existence of the United States Marine Corps Reserve. The true origins of the reserve, however, extend back to the Colonial pe-

riod in American history. Throughout most of the 18th and 19th centuries, virtually all American men of military age served in their local or state militias. Several states along the East Coast and on the Great Lakes had naval militias that included detachments of Marines. By 1915, the rapid growth of the Navy and the war in Europe finally prompted legislation officially creating a Naval reserve. Then on Aug. 29, 1916, Congress passed statutory authority for the creation of the Marine Corps Reserve.

The first test for the newly created Marine Corps Reserve came when the United States entered World War I. Already America's "force in readiness," Marine Corps combat units, with many reserve Marines in their ranks, were among the first to be sent to the battlefields of France. The integration of reserve Marines into the regular Marine Corps was so seamless that combat records do not even indicate which Marines were regular and which were reserve Marines. In all, nearly 7,000 enlisted and more than 400 officer reserve Marines served in combat. The ranks of the wartime Marine Corps reserve also included

women for the first time. The majority of the wartime Marine Corps were not career Marines but enlisted "for the duration." These Marines were essentially reserve Marines.

When World War II began in Europe, the total active duty strength of the Marine Corps was fewer than 20,000. By the time Japanese planes bombed Pearl Harbor, there were over 66,000 Marines on active duty. At the height of the war, the Marine Corps numbered more than half a million. This phenomenal growth was almost entirely achieved through the reserve. Approximately 70 percent of all Marines and 90 percent of the Marine aviators who served their country during World War II were in the reserves.

During the Korean War, the Marine Corps grew in active strength from 75,000 to 261,000 thanks to the reserve. By September 1950, all organized reserve ground units had been called up and 17 reserve squadrons were active. For the first time, women reserve Marines coming on active duty were classified "combat ready" by virtue of their experience and reserve training. At the end of 1950, 80 percent of the 2nd Marine Division was made up of reserve Marines. By the end of the war, reserve Marines received 13 Medals of Honor, 50 Navy Crosses, and over 400 Silver Stars.

During the Vietnam War, the Marine Corps reserve did not face a general mobilization. The country's political leadership was concerned both

by the potential political costs and the need for the Marine Corps reserve to remain as a strategic reserve for Atlantic contingencies. By not mobilizing its reserves, the Marine Corps experienced severe shortages of officers, helicopter pilots, noncommissioned officers, technical military occupational specialist and infantrymen. Instead of trained and ready reserve Marines, the Marine Corps had to rely heavily on a small core of professionals and a mass of draftees. Marine reserve units, remaining at home, organized and supported a special civic action fund to aid the Rural Pacification program in South Vietnam. As in previous wars, the majority of the junior officer corps, during the Vietnam War, were reserve Marines who earned their commissions the same way their fathers and brothers did during World War II. During the height of the war, these reserve officer programs more than doubled their output.

During Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in 1990 and 1991, over 31,000 reserve Marines were mobilized. The Marine Corps Reserve Support Command played a vital role in reinforcing and augmenting the Total Force. More than half of the selected Marine Corps Reserve Marines were placed on active duty, the highest percentage of any service. More than 13,000 reserve Marines were deployed to the war and represented 15 percent of the Marines in theater. Many other reserve Marines and reserve units were deployed outside the United States to meet the requirements of forward units. Because of the efforts to ensure reserve Marines were effectively trained and ready to go when called, their employment overseas with the active duty forces presented few problems. Several reserve units

such as Bravo Company, 4th Tank Battalion, achieved notable success with the highest number of tank kills among Marine units. Hotel Battery, 3rd Bn., 14th Marines, engaged Iraqi tanks at point-blank range and captured more than 200 enemy soldiers.

Marine Corps Reserve mobilization, supported by Marine Corps Reserve Support Command (MCRSC), was so effective during the Gulf War, it has been cited as a model for the other services. Since then, the mission of MCRSC has continued to grow in importance. When the Marine Reserve Force was created on June 6, 1992, MCRSC was designated as a command to reflect and expand the nationwide mission, while maintaining traditional focus on providing administrative support and training for Individual Ready Reserve, Fleet Marine Corps Reserve, and Standby Reserve Marines. MCRSC remains the largest administrative command in the Marine Corps, responsible for over 64,000 Marine's records with unit diary entries exceeding one million each year.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH: In addition to fighting and winning battles abroad, Marine reserve Marines are also active in our nation's communities.

Marine Forces Reserve is allied with local communities nationwide, telling the Marine Corps story and imparting our core values of honor, courage and commitment.

The year 2001 was a busy one for Marine Forces Reserve.

Besides participating in static displays, color guards and other events, MarForRes Marines were also involved in several national programs.

The Toys for Tots program delivered over 13.2

million toys to nearly 6.1 million children across the country.

The Marine Forces Reserve Band dazzled spectators nationwide with an estimated 300 band performances.

MarForRes Marines also help out their local communities through the Young Marines program. Young Marines provides an alternative to crime and violence.

Through community relations programs, MarForRes is ensuring that the Marines of the 21st century live up to America's expectations.





FORCE UNITS:

Headquarters Battalion, MarForRes
New Orleans, La.

3rd Civil Affairs Group
Camp Pendleton, Calif.

4th Civil Affairs Group
Washington, D.C.

3rd Air-Naval Gunfire Liaison Co.
Long Beach, Calif.

4th Air-Naval Gunfire Liaison Co.
West Palm Beach, Fla.

Environmental Services Division
New Orleans, La.

Det. A, Environmental Services Division
Ft. Lewis, Wash.

Det. B, Environmental Services Division
Phoenix, Ariz..

Det. C, Environmental Services Division
Charlotte, N.C.

Det. D, Environmental Services Division
Red Bank, N.J.

Det, Intelligence Battalion Headquarters Co.
Mobile, Ala.

Counterintelligence/Human Intelligence Co.(-)
Washington, D.C.

Det. 1, CI/HUMINT Co.
San Diego, Calif.

Det. 2, CI/HUMINT Co.
Dam Neck, Va.

Det. 3, CI/HUMINT Co.
Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Det. 4, CI/HUMINT Co.
Worcester, Mass.

Det. 5, CI/HUMINT Co.
Miami, Fla.

Det. 6, CI/HUMINT Co.
Garden City, N.Y.

Det. 7, CI/HUMINT Co.
Chicago, Ill.

Det, Production and Analysis Co. (-)
Aurora, Colo.

NBC Single Site Storage Facility
Ft. Worth, Texas



OTHER RESERVE UNITS:

I MEF Augmentation Command Element
Camp Pendleton, Calif.

II MEF Augmentation Command Element
Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Reserve Support Units
Camp Lejeune, N.C.
Camp Pendleton, Calif.
Miramar, Calif.
Twentynine Palms, Calif.
Coronado, Calif.
Quantico, Va.
Cherry Point, N.C.

4th Marine Division



Maj. Gen. Jack A. Davis,
commanding general, 4th
MarDiv



Sgt. Maj. Anthony A.
Cruz, sergeant major, 4th
MarDiv

MISSION: The mission of the 4th Marine Division is to provide trained combat and combat support personnel and units to augment and reinforce the active component in time of war, national emergency, and at other times as national security requires; and to have the capability to reconstitute the division, if required.

HISTORY: The combat history of the 4th Marine Division is the history of our World War II Pacific campaign. Activated at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Aug. 16, 1943, the 4th Marine Division was the first division of Marines to go directly into combat from the United States.

During 21 months in the Pacific, the 4th Marine Division engaged and defeated Japanese forces on the Marshall Islands, Saipan, Tinian and Iwo Jima. Twelve members of the division received the Medal of Honor. For its victories on

Saipan and Tinian, the division received the Presidential Unit Citation, and a star was later added to this award for the division's participation in the assault on Iwo Jima.

After peace was declared, the 4th Marine Division was the first Marine division selected to return to the United States. It was deactivated at Camp Pendleton on Nov. 28, 1945. On Feb. 16, 1966, a headquarters nucleus of the division was reactivated at Camp Pendleton and its colors were uncased June 23.

The division's headquarters moved to its present location in New Orleans and shared a space with the 4th Marine Aircraft Wing at the F. Edward Hebert Defense Complex, a U.S. Navy installation.

During operations Desert Shield and Storm, numerous units were mobilized and deployed to the Gulf Region. These units provided combat personnel and combat support which contributed to the victory of the allied forces.





DIVISION UNITS:

Headquarters, 4th MarDiv. - New Orleans, La.
 Headquarters Bn. - New Orleans, La.
 H&S Co. - New Orleans, La.
 Truck Co. - Erie, Pa.
 1st and 2nd Plts., Truck Co. - Ebensburg, Pa.
 Communications Co. (-) - Cincinnati, Ohio
 Det, Communications Co. - Indianapolis, Ind.
 Military Police Co. - Twin Cities, Minn.
 3rd Force Reconnaissance Co. - Mobile, Ala.
 4th Force Reconnaissance Co. - Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii
 Det., 4th Force Reconnaissance Co. - Reno, Nev.
 Anti-Tank Training Co. - Broken Arrow, Okla.

23rd Marines

Headquarters Co. - San Bruno, Calif.
 TOW Platoon, H&S Co. - Broussard, La.
1st Battalion, 23rd Marines
 H&S Co. - Houston, Texas
 Co. A - Houston, Texas

Co. B - Bossier City, La.
 Co. C - Corpus Christi, Texas
 Det, Co. C - Harlingen, Texas
 Weapons Co. - Austin, Texas
 TOW Section, Weapons Co. - Broken Arrow, Okla.

2nd Battalion, 23rd Marines

H&S Co. - Encino, Calif.
 Co. E - San Bruno, Calif.
 Co. F (-) - Salt Lake City, Utah
 Wpns. Plt., Co. F - Las Vegas, Nev.
 Co. G - Los Alamitos, Calif.
 Weapons Co. - Port Hueneme, Calif.
 TOW Section, Weapons Co. - Broken Arrow, Okla.

3rd Battalion, 23rd Marines

H&S Co. - New Orleans, La.
 Co. I - Little Rock, Ark.
 Co. K - Memphis, Tenn.
 Co. L - Montgomery, Ala.
 Weapons Co. - Baton Rouge, La.
 TOW Section, Weapons Co. - Broken Arrow, Okla.

24th Marines

Headquarters Co. - Kansas City, Mo.
 TOW Plt. - Belton, Mo.

1st Battalion, 24th Marines

H&S Co. - Detroit, Mich.
 Co. A - Grand Rapids, Mich.
 Co. B - Saginaw, Mich.
 Co. C - Lansing, Mich.
 Weapons Co. - Perrysburg, Ohio
 TOW Section, Weapons Co. - Broken Arrow, Okla.

2nd Battalion, 24th Marines

H&S Co. - Chicago, Ill.
 Co. E (-) - Des Moines, Iowa
 Det, Co. E - Chicago, Ill.
 Co. F - Milwaukee, Wis.
 Co. G - Madison, Wis.
 Weapons Co. - Waukegan, Ill.
 TOW Section, Weapons Co. - Broken Arrow, Okla.

3rd Battalion, 24th Marines

H&S Co. - Bridgeton, Mo.
 Co. I - Nashville, Tenn.
 Co. K (-) - Terre Haute, Ind.
 Det, Co. K - Bridgeton, Mo.
 Co. L - Johnson City, Tenn.
 Weapons Co. - Springfield, Mo.
 TOW Section, Weapons Co. - Broken Arrow, Okla.

25th Marines

Headquarters Co. - Worcester, Mass.
 TOW Platoon - Chicopee, Mass.
1st Battalion, 25th Marines
 H&S Co. - Ayer, Mass.
 Co. A (-) - Topsham, Maine
 Det, Co. A - Ayer, Mass.



Co. B - Londonderry, N.H.
 Co. C - Plainville, Conn.
 Weapons Co. - Ayer, Mass.
 TOW Section, Weapons Co. - Broken Arrow, Okla.
[2nd Battalion, 25th Marines](#)
 H&S Co. - Garden City, N.Y.
 Co. E - Harrisburg, Pa.
 Co. F - Albany, N.Y.
 Co. G - Dover, N.J.
 Weapons Co. - Garden City, N.Y.
 TOW Section, Weapons Co. - Broken Arrow, Okla.
[3rd Battalion, 25th Marines](#)
 H&S Co. - Brookpark, Ohio
 Co. I - Buffalo, N.Y.
 Co. K - Moundsville, W.Va.
 Co. L - Columbus, Ohio
 Weapons Co. - Akron, Ohio
 TOW Section, Weapons Co. - Broken Arrow, Okla.

[14th Marines](#)

HQ Battery - Fort Worth, Texas
[1st Battalion, 14th Marines](#)
 HQ Battery (-) - Alameda, Calif.
 Battery A - Aurora, Colo.
 Battery B - Joilet, Ill.
 Battery C - Waterloo, Iowa
[2nd Battalion, 14th Marines](#)
 HQ Battery (-) - Grand Prairie, Texas
 Battery D - El Paso, Texas
 Battery E - Jackson, Miss.
 Battery F - Oklahoma City, Okla.
[3rd Battalion, 14th Marines](#)

HQ Battery (-) - Philadelphia, Pa.
 Battery G - Trenton, N.J.
 Battery H - Reading, Pa.
 Battery I - Richmond, Va.
[4th Battalion, 14th Marines](#)
 HQ Battery (-) - Bessemer, Ala.
 Battery K - Chattanooga, Tenn.
 Battery L - Bessemer, Ala.
 Battery M - Huntsville, Ala.
[5th Battalion, 14th Marines](#)
 HQ Battery (-) - Seal Beach, Calif.
 Battery N - Pico Rivera, Calif.
 Battery O - Seal Beach, Calif.
 Battery P - Spokane, Wash.

[4th Combat Engineer Battalion](#)
 H&S Co. - Baltimore, Md.
 Co. A - Charleston, W.Va.
 Co. B - Roanoke, Va.
 Co. C - Lynchburg, Va.
 Co. D - Knoxville, Tenn.
 Engineer Support Co. - Baltimore, Md.

[4th Reconnaissance Battalion](#)

H&S Co. - San Antonio, Texas
 Co. A - San Antonio, Texas
 Co. B - Billings, Mont.
 Co. C - San Antonio, Texas
 Co. D - Albuquerque, N.M.
 Co. E - Anchorage, Alaska

[4th Tank Battalion](#)

H&S Co. - San Diego, Calif.
 Co. A - San Diego, Calif.
 Co. B - Yakima, Wash.



Co. C - Boise, Idaho
 Co. D - Riverside, Calif.

[8th Tank Battalion](#)

H&S Co. - Rochester, N.Y.
 Co. A - Fort Knox, Ky.
 Co. B - Syracuse, N.Y.
 Co. C - Tallahassee, Fla.
 Co. D - Eastover, S.C.
 TOW/Scout Plt. - Miami, Fla.

[4th Assault Amphibian Battalion](#)

H&S Co. - Tampa, Fla.
 Co. A - Norfolk, Va.
 3rd Plt. Co. A - Gulfport, Miss.
 Co. B - Jacksonville, Fla.
 3rd Plt. Co. B - Galveston, Texas

[4th Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion](#)

H&S Co. - Camp Pendleton, Calif.
 Co. A - Camp Pendleton, Calif.
 Co. B - Frederick, Md.
 Co. C - Riverton, Utah
 Co. D - Quantico, Va.
 LAV-AD Plt., H&S Co. - Camp Pendleton, Calif.

4th Marine Aircraft Wing



Brig. Gen. Jack W. Bergman, commanding general, 4th MAW



Sgt. Maj. August F. Beilmann, sergeant major, 4th MAW

MISSION: The mission of the 4th Marine Aircraft Wing is to organize, train and equip individual Marines and combat ready groups, squadrons, and air defense units to augment and reinforce active components when required. 4th MAW continues to strive toward seamless integration in order to serve as part of our Total Force.

HISTORY: Prior to World War II, Marine Reserve aviation consisted of a few personnel operating obsolete aircraft under severe budgetary limitations. With the threat of war in Europe, a few reserve Marines were activated, and by October 1940, 1,278 reserve Marines had been called to active duty. This handful of dedicated men helped build the Marine aviation force which cleared the skies and supported ground operations during World War II.

The 4th Marine Base Defense Aircraft Wing was commissioned Aug. 22, 1942, at Ewa, Hawaii. The wing's three squadrons were located at Midway, Ewa and Samoa with the headquarters at Ewa.

In the fall of 1944, the 4th Marine Base Defense Aircraft Wing became the 4th Marine Aircraft Wing. As the war progressed across the Pacific, 4th MAW pilots refined fighter bombing and low-altitude flying techniques. The wing combined with the proven ability of Marine infantrymen to form an effective and devastating team and paved the way for today's air/ground team concept.

The 4th MAW was deactivated shortly after the war. On Feb. 25, 1946, the Marine Air Reserve Training Command was established to preserve the skills of those Marines returning to civilian life. Headquarters for MARTC was located at the Naval Air Station, Glenview, Ill.

Post World War II foresight paid off in 1950 when the Korean War broke out. Having grown to a force of 6,035 men who trained at 25 Marine Air Detachments from coast to coast, the Marine Air Reserve was prepared for mobilization.

Less than two weeks after mobilization, on July 23, 1950, three reserve fighter squadrons were on duty in Korea. Within the first seven weeks, the Marine Air Reserve furnished enough men to increase Marine fighter squadron strength in the Far East from two to six squadrons.

Seven months later, more than 50 percent of the officers and 36 percent of the enlisted Marines in the 1st MAW were reserve Marines.

The lessons and experience of Korea helped expand and improve the entire reserve aviation program. In September 1953, Marine Air Detachments were redesignated as Marine Air Reserve Training Detachments. Most MARTDs were located aboard naval air stations across the nation.

The MARTC was reorganized in 1962 to include a Marine Aircraft Wing. This reorganization coincided with similar moves in the ground reserve, resulting in the division-wing concept for the entire Marine Corps Reserve program. The 4th MAW was brought back into being and the MARTC-4th MAW became a dual command.

As turmoil developed in the Dominican Republic and U.S. involvement in Southwest Asia increased during the mid-sixties, the necessity of having a ready force in reserve became more apparent. Emphasis was shifted to the 4th MAW and in July 1966, a reorganization was under taken to ensure that all units were prepared to execute the same missions and tasks as assigned in the regular Fleet Marine Force.

In June 1974, 4th MAW/MARTC headquarters relocated to New Orleans. In October 1979, the MARTC was disbanded to organize the 4th MAW along the same lines as its active duty counterparts.

During Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, numerous units were mobilized and deployed to the Gulf Region. These units provided air support which contributed to the victory of allied forces.

WING UNITS:

Headquarters, 4th MAW - New Orleans, La.
Marine Air Support Det. - Belle Chasse, La.
Marine Air Support Det. - Andrews AFB, Md.

Marine Aircraft Group 41

Headquarters - Fort Worth, Texas
Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA) 112
- Fort Worth, Texas
Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron (VMGR) 234 - Fort Worth, Texas
Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron (MALS) 41- Fort Worth, Texas

Marine Aircraft Group 42

Headquarters - Marietta, Ga.
Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA) 142
- Marietta, Ga.



Marine Aircraft Group 42 Det. B - Norfolk, Va.
Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron (HMM) 774 - Norfolk, Va.
Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron (HMLA) 773(-) - Marietta, Ga.
Marine Aircraft Group 42 Det. C - Belle Chasse, La.
Det A, Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron (HMLA) 773 - Belle Chasse, La.
Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron (MALS) 42 - Marietta, Ga.

Marine Aircraft Group 46

Headquarters - Miramar, Calif.
Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA) 134 - Miramar, Calif.
Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron (HMH) 769 - Edwards AFB, Calif.
Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron (HMM)

764 - Edwards AFB, Calif.
Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron (HMLA) 775(-) - Camp Pendleton, Calif.
Marine Fighter Training Squadron 401 - MCAS Yuma, Ariz.

Marine Aircraft Group 49

Headquarters - Willow Grove, Pa.
Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA) 321 - Andrews AFB, Md.
Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron (VMGR) 452 - Stewart ANGB, N.Y.
Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron (HMH) 772 - Willow Grove, Pa.
Det A, Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron (HMLA) 775 - Johnstown, Pa.
Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron (MALS) 49 - Stewart ANGB, N.Y.



Marine Wing Support Group 47

Headquarters - Selfridge ANGB, Mich.

MWSS-471 (-) - Minneapolis, Minn.

Det A, MWSS-471 - Johnstown, Pa.

Det B, MWSS-471 - Selfridge ANGB, Mich.

MWSS-472(-) - Willow Grove, Pa.

Det A, MWSS-472 - Wyoming, Pa.

Det B, MWSS-472, - Westover ARB, Mass.

MWSS-473(-) - Miramar, Calif.

Det A, MWSS-473 - Fresno, Calif.

Det B, MWSS-473 - Fort Worth, Texas

Marine Air Control Group 48

Headquarters - Fort Sheridan, Ill.

Marine Wing Communications Squadron 48 - Fort Sheridan, Ill.

Airfield Det (Forward), MWCS-48 - Miramar, Calif.

Airfield Det (Rear), MWCS-48 - Fort Sheridan, Ill.

Marine Air Support Squadron 6(-) - Westover ARB, Mass.

Det, MASS-6 - Miramar, Calif.

Marine Air Control Squadron 24 - Dam Neck, Va.

Tactical Air Operations Center Det, MACS-24 - Dam Neck, Va.

Air Traffic Control Det A, MACS-24 - Fort Worth, Texas

Marine Air Control Squadron 23 - Aurora, Colo.

Tactical Air Operations Center Det, MACS-23 - Aurora, Colo.

Tactical Air Operations Center Det, MACS-23 - Cheyenne, Wyo.

4th Low Altitude Air Defense Bn. - Pasadena, Calif.

H&S Btry, 4th LAAD - Pasadena, Calif.

Det, H&S Btry, 4th LAAD - Marietta, Ga.

Btry A, 4th LAAD - Pasadena, Calif.

Btry B, 4th LAAD - Marietta, Ga.



Marine Tactical Air Command Squadron 48 - Fort Sheridan, Ill.



4th Force Service Support Group

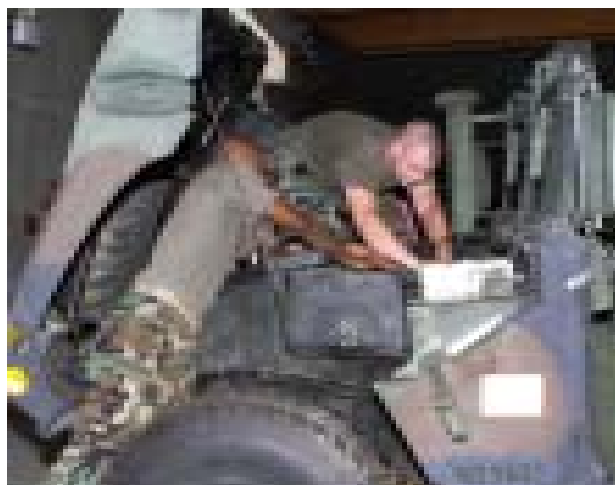


Brig. Gen. Cornell A. Wilson Jr., commanding general, 4th FSSG



Sgt. Maj. Brownloe Price, sergeant major, 4th FSSG

May 1976, the unit was redesignated as the 4th Force Service Support Group, Fleet Marine Force. In January 1987, the headquarters relocated to Marietta, Ga. The flag of the 4th FSSG was moved to its present site in New Orleans in February 1992.



MISSION: The mission of the 4th Force Service Support Group is to provide general and direct support and sustained combat service support above the organic capabilities of support elements of Marine Air Ground Task Forces. These supported units may be in garrison, combat, and/or in separate locations. The FSSG will support the MAGTF in the amphibious assault and subsequent operations ashore.

HISTORY: On February 1, 1966, the Headquarters of 4th Force Service Regiment was activated at the Armed Forces Reserve Center in Midland, Texas. During January 1968 the headquarters relocated to the Marine Reserve Training Center, Orlando, Fla. The headquarters again relocated to the Navy and Marine Corps Reserve Training Center, Atlanta, Ga., during 1971. In



FSSG UNITS:

Headquarters, 4th FSSG - New Orleans, La.
 4th FSSG Forward East - Camp Lejeune, N.C.
 4th FSSG Forward West - Camp Pendleton, Calif.
 NBC Defense Plt. - Belton, Mo.
 Graves Registration Plt. - Dayton, Ohio

Headquarters and Service Battalion

Headquarters Co. (-) (rein) - Marietta, Ga.
 Service Co. (-) - Marietta, Ga.
 Communications Co. (-) - Greensboro, N.C.
 Det. 1, Comm. Co. - Grissom AFB, Ind.
 Det. 2, Comm. Co. - Allentown, Pa.
 1st Plt. Military Police Co. A - Lexington, Ky.
 Military Police Co. A (-) - Dayton, Ohio
 Military Police Co. B - Pittsburgh, Pa.

4th Maintenance Battalion

H&S Co. (-) - Charlotte, N.C.
 Ordnance Maint. Co. (-) - Waco, Texas
 Det, Ordnance Maint. Co. - Fort Devens, Mass.
 Engineer Maint. Co. (-) - Omaha, Neb.
 Det, Engineer Maint. Co. - Wichita, Kan.
 Electronic Maint. Co. - Wichita, Kan.
 Det. 1, Elect. Maint. Co. - Greensboro, N.C.
 Det. 2, Elect. Maint. Co. - Indianapolis, Ind.
 Motor T Maintenance Co. - Sacramento, Calif.
 Det 1, Motor T Maint. Co. - Dyess AFB, Texas
 Det 2, Motor T Maint. Co. - Augusta, Ga.
 Det 3, Motor T Maint. Co. - Allentown, Pa.
 General Support Maint. Co. - Rock Island, Ill.

4th Supply Battalion

H&S Co. (-) - Newport News, Va.
 Supply Co. (-) - Raleigh, N.C.
 Det. 1, Supply Co. - Washington, D.C.
 Det. 2, Supply Co. - Albany, Ga.
 Det. 3, Supply Co. - New Orleans, La.
 Rations Co. - Washington, D.C.
 Ammunition Co. (-) - Greenville, S.C.
 Det. 1, Ammunition Co. - Rome, Ga.
 General Support Ammunition Plt.,
 Ammunition Co. - Topeka, Kan.
 Medical Logistics Co. (-) - Newport News, Va.
 Det. 1, Med. Logistics Co. - San Diego, Calif.

6th Engineer Support Battalion

H&S Co. (-) - Portland, Ore.
 Engineer Support Co. - Battle Creek, Mich.
 Bridge Co. A - Battle Creek, Mich.
 Bridge Co. B - Eugene, Ore.
 Bulk Fuel Co. A (-) - Tucson, Ariz.
 Det. 1, Bulk Fuel Co. A - Fort Lewis, Wash.



Det. 2, Bulk Fuel Co. A - Bakersfield, Calif.
Bulk Fuel Co. B - Wilmington, Del.
Bulk Fuel Co. C - Phoenix, Ariz.
Engineer Co. A - Folsom, Pa.
Engineer Co. B - South Bend, Ind.
Engineer Co. C - Peoria, Ill.

4th Landing Support Battalion

H&S Co. (-) - Fort Lewis, Wash.
Landing Support Equipment Co. (-) - Vienna, Ohio
Beach and Terminal Operations Co. A (-) - San Jose, Calif.
Det. 1, Beach and Terminal Operations Co. A - Wilmington, N.C.
Det. 2, Beach and Terminal Operations Co. A -

Concord, Calif.
Beach and Terminal Operations Co. B (-) - Savannah, Ga.
Det. 1, Beach and Terminal Operations Co. B - Wilmington, N.C.
Det. 2, Beach and Terminal Operations Co. B - Roosevelt Roads, P.R.
Landing Support Co. A - Fort Lewis, Wash.
Landing Support Co. B - Lathrop, Calif.
Landing Support Co. C - Charleston, S.C.

6th Motor Transport Battalion

H&S Co. (-) - Red Bank, N.J.
General Support Motor T Co. (-) (Rein) - Providence, R.I.
Det. 1, General Support Motor T Co. -

Orlando, Fla.
Det. 2, General Support Motor T Co. - Texarkana, Texas
Det. 3, General Support Motor T Co. - Red Bank, N.J.
Bulk Fuel Transportation Plt., General Support Motor T Co. - Las Vegas, Nev.
Direct Support Motor T Co. A (-) - Orlando, Fla.
Det 1, Direct Support Motor T Co. A - New Haven, Conn.
Direct Support Motor T Co. B (-) - Lubbock, Texas
Det. 1, Direct Support Motor T Co. B - New Haven, Conn.

6th Communications Battalion

Headquarters Co. (-) - Brooklyn, N.Y.
Service Co. (-) - Brooklyn, N.Y.
General Support Co. - Brooklyn, N.Y.
Direct Support Co. A (Rein) - Amityville, N.Y.

4th Medical Battalion

H&S Co. (-) - San Diego, Calif.
Det., H&S Co. - Orlando, Fla.
Surgical Co. A (-) - Pittsburgh, Pa.
Det., Surgical Co. A - Knoxville, Tenn.
Surgical Co. B (-) - Washington, D.C.
Det., Surgical Co. B - Newport News, Va.

4th Dental Battalion

H&S Co. - Marietta, Ga.
4th Dental Co. - Fort Worth, Texas
14th Dental Co. - Philadelphia, Pa.
24th Dental Co. - Marietta, Ga.



Marine Corps Reserve Support Command



Maj. Gen. L. S. Taylor,
commanding general,
MCRSC



Sgt. Maj. Gloria J.
Harden, sergeant major,
MCRSC

MISSION: MCRSC's mission is to provide administrative support and customer service to reserve Marines and active duty operational sponsors and recruit prior service Marines to fill selected Marine Corps reserve billets, thus enabling Marine Forces Reserve to achieve its mission of supporting and augmenting the Total Force Marine Corps.

HISTORY: 2002 marks the 37th anniversary of the Marine Corps Reserve Support Command (MCRSC). It was during the opening stages of American involvement in Vietnam that the precursor of MCRSC was established. In July of 1965, the Reserve Records Branch (Class III) was established in Kansas City, Mo. Over the years, this activity went through a series of name changes. Its initial mission to provide total ad-

ministrative support for the Marine Corps Reserve has continued. A major expansion in 1981 saw the name change to Marine Corps Reserve Support Center, with the additional missions of training and recruiting for the Reserve. Marine reserve recruiters have achieved 100 percent mission success each year since 1983, a DoD record. The following year, the command moved to the Administrative and Management Complex in Overland Park, Ks.

During Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm (1990-91), more than 31,000 reserve Marines were mobilized. MCRSC played a vital role in reinforcing and augmenting the Total Force. More than half of all Selected Marine Corps Reserve Marines were placed on active duty during the war, the highest percentage of any service. More than 13,000 Marine reserve Marines were deployed to the war and represented 15 percent of the Marines in theater. Many other reserve Marines and reserve units were deployed outside the United States to meet the requirements of forward units.

Because the efforts to insure reserve Marines are effectively trained and ready to go when called, their employment overseas with the active duty forces presented few problems.

Marine Corps Reserve mobilization, supported by MCRSC, was so effective during the Gulf War, it has been cited as a model for the other services. Since then, the mission of MCRSC

continued to grow in importance. When the Marine Reserve Force (now Marine Forces Reserve) was created June 6, 1992, MCRSC was designated as a command to reflect an expanded, nationwide mission while maintaining its traditional focus on providing consolidated administrative support and training for Individual Ready Reserve, Fleet Marine Corps Reserve, Individual Mobilization Augmentee detachment members, Active Reserve, Active Component, and Standby Reserve Marines.

MCRSC moved from Overland Park, Kan., May 12, 1995, to its current facility aboard the Richards-Gebaur campus in Kansas City, Mo., where the initial records unit had its beginning some 30 years ago. MCRSC remains the largest administrative command in the Marine Corps responsible for more than 65,000 Marine records with unit diary entries exceeding millions each year. At the cutting edge of personnel administration, MCRSC is committed to improving the quality of customer support for Marines, providing commanders greater accessibility to their Marines' records, and providing subject matter experts common information from which to build, shape, and manage Marine Corps Total Force Administration. MCRSC is "At the Ready" today, as has been its predecessors and the Marine Reserve since their inception.



MarForRes

Reserve Unit Locations

Alabama

Bessemer

HQ Btry., 4th Bn., 14th Marines
Phone: 205-426-0555

Btry. L, 4th Bn., 14th Marines
Phone: 205-426-0555

Huntsville

Btry. M, 4th Bn., 14th Marines
Phone: 256-876-8962

Mobile

3rd Force Recon Co.
Phone: 251-344-6206

Det, Intelligence Battalion HQ Co.
Phone: 251-344-6206

Montgomery

Co. L., 3rd Bn., 23rd Marines
Phone: 334-272-8152

Alaska

Anchorage

Co. E., 4th Recon Bn.

Phone: 907-580-1001

Arizona

Phoenix

Bulk Fuel Co. C, 6th ESB
Phone: 602-353-3063

Det. B, Environmental Services Division
602-484-7051

Tucson

Bulk Fuel Co. A (-), 6th ESB
Phone: 520-228-6300

Yuma

Marine Fighter Training Squadron (VMFT)
401, MAG-46
Phone: 928-341-2708

Arkansas

Little Rock

Co. I, 3rd Bn., 23rd Marines
Phone: 501-771-4323/4324

California

Alameda

HQ Btry., 1st Bn., 14th Marines

Phone: 510-814-1600

Btry. A, 1st Bn., 14th Marines
510-814-1600

Camp Pendleton

I Marine Expeditionary Force Augmentation
Command Element
Phone: 760-725-6017

3rd Civil Affairs Group
Phone: 760-725-2732/6017

4th FSSG Forward West
Phone: 760-725-9673

Det 3, CI/HUMINT Co.
Phone: 760-725-6020/6017

H&S Co., 4th LAR Bn.
Phone: 760-725-4908

Co. A, 4th LAR Bn.
Phone: 760-725-4908

Reserve Support Unit
Phone: 760-725-7291

Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron (HMLA) 775, MAG-46
Phone: 760-365-8254

Concord
Det 2, Beach and Terminal Operations Co. A,
4th LSB
Phone: 925-825-1775

Edwards Air Force Base
Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron (HMH)
769, MAG-46
Phone: 661-525-3421

Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron (HMM)
764, MAG-46
Phone: 661-525-3453

Encino
H&S Co., 2nd Bn., 23rd Marines
Phone: 818-705-1318

Fresno
Det A, Marine Wing Support Squadron 473,
MWSG-47
Phone: 559-294-1095

Lathrop
Landing Support Co. B, 4th LSB
Phone: 209-982-3800

Long Beach
3rd Air-Naval Gunfire Liaison Co.
Phone: 310-519-1801

Los Alamitos
Co. G, 2nd Bn., 23rd Marines
Phone: 562-795-2395

Miramar
HQ, MAG-46
Phone: 858-577-6804

**Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA) 134,
MAG-46**
Phone: 858-577-4905

**Marine Wing Support Squadron 473 (-),
MWSG-47**
Phone: 619-537-6847

**Det, Marine Air Support Squadron 6,
MACG-48**
Phone: 858-577-6114

**Airfield Det (Forward),
MACG-48**
Phone: 858-577-6091

Reserve Support Unit
Phone: 858-577-4020

Moreno Valley (Riverside)
Co. D, 4th Tank Bn.
Phone: 909-655-2148

Pasadena
4th Low Altitude Air Defense Bn., MACG-48
Phone: 626-398-0295

**H&S Btry., 4th Low Altitude Air Defense Bn.,
MACG-48**
Phone: 626-398-0295

**Btry. A, 4th Low Altitude Air Defense Bn.,
MACG-48**
Phone: 626-398-0295

Pico Rivera
Btry. N, 5th Bn., 14th Marines
Phone: 562-695-1981

Port Hueneme
Weapons Co., 2nd Bn., 23rd Marines
Phone: 805-982-3317

Sacramento
Auto Contact Maint. Plt., Motor T Maint. Co.,
4th Maint. Bn.
Phone: 916-387-7123

San Bruno
H&S Co., 23rd Marines
Phone: 650-244-9806

Co. E, 2nd Bn., 23rd Marines
Phone: 650-244-1747/48

San Diego
H&S Co., 4th Tank Bn.
Phone: 619-537-8066

Co. A, 4th Tank Bn.
Phone: 858-537-8066

H&S Co., 4th Medical Bn.
Phone: 858-537-8090

Det. 1, CI/HUMINT Co.
Phone: 619-537-8076

San Jose

Beach and Terminal Operations Co. A,
4th LSB
Phone: 908-286-6501

Seal Beach

HQ Btry., 5th Bn., 14th Marines
Phone: 562-626-6180

Btry. O, 5th Bn., 14th Marines
Phone: 562-626-6180

Twentynine Palms

Reserve Support Unit
Phone: 760-830-7285/6833

Colorado

Aurora

Marine Air Control Squadron 23,
MACG-48
Phone: 303-677-6251

Tactical Air Operations Center Det,
MACS-23
Phone: 303-677-6251

Det, Production and Analysis Co. (-)
Phone: 303-677-6359

Connecticut

New Haven

Det 1, Direct Support Motor T Co. A and
Det 1, Direct Support Motor T Co. B, 6th MTB
Phone: 203-467-5322

Plainville

Co. C, 1st Bn., 25th Marines
Phone: 860-747-1643

Delaware

Wilmington

Bulk Fuel Co. B, 6th ESB
Phone: 302-998-6695

Florida

Jacksonville

Co. B, 4th Assault Amphibian Bn.
Phone: 904-542-1751

Miami

Det 5, C1/HUMINT Co.
Phone: 305-628-5175

TOW/Scout Plt., 8th Tank Bn.
Phone: 305-628-5173/4

Orlando

Det, H&S Co., 4th Medical Bn.
Phone: 407-894-3793

Det 1, General Support Motor T Co, 6th MTB
Phone: 407-894-2001

Direct Support Motor T Co. A (-), 6th MTB
Phone: 407-894-2001

Tallahassee

Co. C, 8th Tank Bn.
Phone: 850-574-3147/48/49

Tampa

H&S Co., 4th Assault Amphibian Bn.
Phone: 813-805-7016

West Palm Beach

4th Air-Naval Gunfire Liaison Co.
Phone: 561-683-4443

Georgia

Albany

Det 2, Supply Co., 4th Supply Bn.
Phone: 912-639-5475

Augusta

Det 2, Motor T Maintenance Co., 4th
Maintenance Bn.
Phone: 706-736-1401/2

Marietta

HQ, MAG-42
Phone: 770-919-6282

Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA) 142,
MAG-42
Phone: 770-919-6282

Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron

(HMLA) 773, MAG-42
Phone: 770-919-6282

Det, H&S Btry., 4th Low Altitude Air Defense Bn., MACG-48
Phone: 770-919-5581

Btry. B, 4th Low Altitude Air Defense Bn., MACG-48
Phone: 770-919-5581

Headquarters and Service Bn., 4th FSSG
Phone: 770-919-4365/6

H&S Co., 4th Dental Bn.
Phone: 770-919-4395

24th Dental Co., 4th Dental Bn.
Phone: 770-919-1365

Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 42, MAG-42
Phone: 770-919-6066

Rome
Det 1, Ammo Co. (Rein), 4th Supply Bn.
Phone: 706-234-0406/1030/4497

Savannah
Beach and Terminal Operations Co. B (-), 4th LSB
Phone: 912-351-0242

Idaho

Kaneohe Bay
4th Force Reconnaissance Co.
Phone: 808-257-2531/2420

Idaho

Boise
Co. C, 4th Tank Bn.
Phone: 208-422-6250

Illinois

Chicago
H&S Co., 2nd Bn., 24th Marines
Phone: 773-539-6464

Det, Co. E, 2nd Bn., 24th Marines
Phone: 773-539-6464

Det 7, C1/HUMINT Co.
Phone: 773-539-6464

Fort Sheridan/Highwood
HQ, Marine Air Control Group 48
Phone: 847-688-7129 ex 2222

HQ, Marine Wing Communications Squadron 48, MACG-48
Phone: 847-688-7129 ext 2222

Marine Tactical Air Command Squadron 48, MACG-48
Phone: 847-688-7129 ex 2222

Airfield Det (Rear), MWCS-48
Phone: 847-688-7129

Joliet
Btry. B, 1st Bn., 14th Marines
Phone: 815-725-7828

Peoria
Engineer Co. C, 6th ESB
Phone: 309-697-8490/1

Rock Island
General Support Maintenance Co., 4th Maintenance Bn.
Phone: 309-782-6044

Waukegan
Weapons Co., 2nd Bn., 24th Marines
Phone: 847-623-7447

Indiana

Grissom AFB
Det 1, Communications Co., H&S Bn., 4th FSSG
Phone: 765-688-4401

Indianapolis
Det 2, Electronic Maintenance Co., 4th Maint. Bn.
Phone: 317-923-1584

Det, Communications Co. (-), H&S Bn., 4th MarDiv
Phone: 317-923-1584

South Bend
Engineer Co. B, 6th ESB
Phone: 219-233-8616

Terre Haute

Co. K (-), 3rd Bn., 24th Marines
Phone: 812-235-8636

Iowa

Des Moines

Co. E (-), 2nd Bn., 24th Marines
Phone: 515-285-2616

Waterloo

Btry. C, 1st Bn., 14th Marines
Phone: 310-233-8731

Kansas

Topeka

General Support, Ammo Plt., 4th Supply Bn.
Phone: 785-233-1762

Wichita

Electronic Maintenance Co., 4th Maint. Bn.
Phone: 316-682-3252

Det 1, Engineer Maintenance Co., 4th Maint.
Bn.

Phone: 316-682-3252

Kentucky

Fort Knox

Co. A, 8th Tank Bn.
Phone: 502-624-6224

Lexington

Military Police Co. A (-), H&S Bn., 4th FSSG
Phone: 589-254-4503

Louisiana

Baton Rouge

Weapons Co., 3rd Bn., 23rd Marines
Phone: 225-356-1327

Belle Chasse

Marine Aircraft Group 42 Det. C
Phone: 504-678-3115

Marine Light Attack Helicopter
Squadron(HMLA) 773 Det. A, MAG-42
Phone: 504-678-3115

Marine Air Support Det.

Phone: 504-678-3470

Bossier City

Co. B (-), 1st Bn., 23rd Marines
Phone: 318-747-0795

Broussard

TOW Plt., H&S Co., 23rd Marines
Phone: 337-837-5151/52

New Orleans

HQ, Marine Forces Reserve
Phone: 504-678-1580

Headquarters Battalion, MarForRes
504-678-8615

HQ, 4th MarDiv
Phone: 504-678-0736

HQ, 4th MAW
Phone: 504-678-0514

HQ, 4th FSSG

Phone: 504-678-0677

Enviromental Services Division, MarForRes
Phone: 504-678-6800

Marine Forces Reserve Band
Phone: 504-678-8260

H&S Co., 3rd Bn., 23rd Marines
Phone: 504-288-2323

Maine

Topsham

Co. A (-), 1st Bn., 25th Marines
Phone: 207-721-9037

Maryland

Andrews AFB

Marine Air Support Det.
Phone: 301-981-7760

Marine Fighter Attack Squadron(VMFA) 321,
MAG-49

Phone: 301-981-7760

Baltimore

H&S Co., 4th CEB
Phone: 410-444-6201

Engineer Support Co., 4th CEB
Phone: 410-444-6200

Frederick

Co. B, 4th LAR Bn.
Phone: 310-619-7136

Massachusetts

Ayer (Fort Devens)
H&S Co., 1st Bn., 25th Marines
Phone: 978-796-2848

Det, Co. A, 1st Bn., 25th Marines
Phone: 978-796-2848

Weapons Co., 1st Bn., 25th Marines
Phone: 978-796-2848

Chicopee
TOW Plt., HQ Co., 25th Marines
Phone: 413-593-3553

Fort Devens
Det, Ordnance Maintenance Co., 4th Maint.
Bn.
Phone: 978-796-2982

Westover AFB
Marine Air Support Squadron 6 (-),
MACG-48
Phone: 413-593-2222

Det B, Marine Wing Support Squadron 472,
MWSG-47
Phone: 413-593-2222

Worcester
HQ Co., 25th Marines
Phone: 508-856-9600

Det. 4, CI/HUMINT Co.
Phone: 508-856-9600

Michigan

Battle Creek
Bridge Co. A, 6th ESB
Phone: 616-964-8882

Engineer Support Co., 6th ESB
Phone: 616-964-8882

Detroit
H&S Co., 1st Bn., 24th Marines
Phone: 313-824-3553

Grand Rapids
Co. A, 1st Bn., 24th Marines
Phone: 616-363-1601

Lansing
Co. C, 1st Bn., 24th Marines
Phone: 517-487-2992

Saginaw
Co. B, 1st Bn., 24th Marines
Phone: 517-754-1442

Selfridge ANGB
HQ, Marine Wing Support Group 47
Phone: 770-925-6249

Det B, Marine Wing Support Squadron 471,
MWSG-47
Phone: 770-925-6249

Minnesota

Minneapolis
Marine Wing Support Squadron 471 (-),
MWSG-47
Phone: 612-713-1890

Twin Cities
Military Police Co., 4th MarDiv
Phone: 612-726-1313

Mississippi

Jackson
Btry. E, 2nd Bn., 14th Marines
Phone: 601-354-3539

Gulfport
3rd Plt. Co. A, 4th AAB
Phone: 228-871-3101

Missouri

Belton
H&S Co., 24th Marines
Phone: 816-843-3572

TOW Plt., HQ Co., 24th Marines
Phone: 816-843-3572

NBC Defense Plt., 4th FSSG
Phone: 816-843-3572

Bridgeton
H&S Co., 3rd Bn., 24th Marines
Phone: 314-263-6204/5

Det, Co. K, 3rd Bn., 24th Marines
Phone: 314-263-6204

Kansas City
Marine Corps Reserve Support Command
Phone: 1-800-255-5082/816-843-3051

Springfield
Weapons Co., 3rd Bn., 24th Marines
Phone: 417-869-2857

Montana

Billings
Co. B, 4th Reconnaissance Bn.
Phone: 406-655-6252

Nebraska

Omaha
Engineer Maintenance Co., 4th Maint. Bn.
Phone: 402-453-8807

Nevada

Las Vegas
Wpns. Plt., Co. F, 2nd Bn., 23rd Marines
Phone: 702-632-1501

Bulk Fuel Transportation Plt., General
Support Motor T Co. (Rein), 6th MTB
Phone: 702-632-1501

Reno
Det, 4th Force Reconnaissance Co.
Phone: 775-972-4998

New Hampshire

Londonderry
Co. B, 1st Bn., 25th Marines
Phone: 603-537-8000

New Jersey

Dover
Co. G, 2nd Bn., 25th Marines
Phone: 973-724-4701

Red Bank
H&S Co., 6th MTB
Phone: 732-530-4500

Det 3, General Support Motor T Co., 6th MTB
Phone: 732-530-4500

Det D, Environmental Services Division,
732-530-4500

Trenton
Btry. G, 3rd Bn., 14th Marines
Phone: 609-882-5133

New Mexico

Albuquerque
Co. D, 4th Reconnaissance Bn.
Phone: 505-298-5508/09

New York

Albany
Co. F, 2nd Bn., 25th Marines
Phone: 518-489-4221

Amityville
Direct Support Co. A (Rein), 6th
Communications Bn.
Phone: 613-842-1991

Brooklyn
HQ Co. (-), 6th Communications Bn.
Phone: 718-252-3100

Service Co. (-), 6th Communications Bn.
Phone: 718-252-3100

General Support Co., 6th Communications Bn.
Phone: 718-252-3100

Buffalo
Co. I, 3rd Bn., 25th Marines
Phone: 716-885-6529

Garden City
H&S Co., 2nd Bn., 25th Marines
Phone: 516-228-5666

Weapons Co., 2nd Bn., 25th Marines
Phone: 516-288-5110

Det 6, CI/HUMINT Co.
Phone: 516-228-5110

Stewart ANGB
Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron
(VMGR) 452, MAG-49
Phone: 845-563-2905/03

**Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 49,
MAG-49
Phone: 845-563-2905**

**Rochester
H&S Co., 8th Tank Bn.
Phone: 716-247-3330**

**Syracuse
Co. B, 8th Tank Bn.
Phone: 315-454-9577**

North Carolina

**Camp Lejeune
II Marine Expeditionary Force Augmentation
Command Element
Phone: 910-451-8778**

**4th FSSG Forward East,
Phone: 910-451-8780**

**Reserve Support Unit
Phone: 910-451-5240**

**Charlotte
H&S Co. (-), 4th Maintenance Bn.
Phone: 704-598-0015**

**Det C, Environmental Services Division
Phone: 704-598-0015**

**Cherry Point
Reserve Support Unit
Phone: 252-466-4601/11**

**Greensboro
Det 1, Electronic Maintenance Co. (-), 4th
Maint. Bn.
Phone: 336-668-0866**

**Communications Co. (-), H&S Bn., 4th FSSG
Phone: 336-668-0866**

**Raleigh
Supply Co. (-), 4th Supply Bn.
Phone: 919-834-0003**

**Wilmington
Det 1, Beach and Terminal Operations Co. A,
4th LSB
Phone: 910-343-0098**

**Det 1, Beach and Terminal Operations Co. B,
4th LSB
Phone: 910-343-0098**

Ohio

**Akron
Weapons Co., 3rd Bn., 25th Marines
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**Brookpark
H&S Co., 3rd Bn., 25th Marines
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**Cincinnati
Communications Co. (-), HQSCV Bn., 4th
MarDiv
Phone: 513-221-2370**

**Columbus
Co. L, 3rd Bn., 25th Marines
Phone: 614-235-8664**

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1st Plt. Military Police Co. A, HQSVC Bn., 4th
FSSG
Phone: 937-268-3261**

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Weapons Co., 1st Bn., 24th Marines
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Landing Support Equipment Co. (-), 4th LSB
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Oklahoma

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TOW Training Co.
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**Oklahoma City
Btry. F, 2nd Bn., 14th Marines
Phone: 405-737-7883**

Oregon

**Eugene
Bridge Co. B, 6th ESB
Phone: 541-484-6244**

Portland
H&S Co. (-), 6th ESB
Phone: 503-286-3352

Pennsylvania

Allentown
Det 2, Communications Co., HQSVC Bn., 4th
FSSG
Phone: 610-266-1234

Auto Contact Maint. Team, Motor T. Co.,
4th Maintenance Bn.
Phone: 610-266-1234

Ebensburg
1st and 2nd Plts., Truck Co., HQ Bn., 4th
MarDiv
Phone: 814-472-6440

Erie
Truck Co.(-), HQ Bn., 4th MarDiv
Phone: 814-868-0847

Folsom
Engineer Co. A, 6th ESB
Phone: 610-532-7951

Harrisburg
Co. E, 2nd Bn., 25th Marines
Phone: 717-255-8079/80/81

Johnstown
Det. A, Marine Wing Support Squadron,
MWSG-47
Phone: 814-467-0094/95

Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron
(HMLA), Det. A, MAG-46
Phone: 814-539-7206

Philadelphia
HQ Btry., 3rd Bn., 14th Marines
Phone: 215-934-6555

14th Dental Co., 4th Dental Bn.
Phone: 215-934-6555

Pittsburgh
Surgical Co. A (-), 4th Medical Bn.
Phone: 412-672-3208/09

Military Police Co. B, HQSVC Bn., 4th FSSG
Phone: 412-672-3472

Reading
Btry. H, 3rd Bn., 14th Marines
Phone: 610-373-1607

Willow Grove
HQ, MAG-49
Phone: 215-443-6704

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron
(HMH)772, MAG-49
Phone: 215-443-6712/18

Marine Wing Support Squadron 472 (-),
MWSG-47
Phone: 215-773-2388

Wyoming

Det A, Marine Wing Support Squadron 472,
MWSG-47
Phone: 717-288-1947

Puerto Rico

Roosevelt Roads
Det 2, Beach and Terminal Operations Co. B,
4th LSB
Phone: 787-865-5457

Rhode Island

Providence
General Support Motor Transport Co. (-)
(Rein), 6th MTB
Phone: 401-461-2473

South Carolina

Charleston
Landing Support Co. C, 4th LSB
Phone: 843-743-5208

Eastover
Co. D, 8th Tank Bn.
Phone: 803-783-0759

Greenville
Ammunition Co. (-), 4th Supply Bn
Phone: 864-299-3937, ext 226

Tennessee

Chattanooga
Btry. K, 4th Bn., 14th Marines
Phone: 423-697-7988

Johnson City

Co. L, 3rd Bn., 24th Marines
Phone: 423-467-2196

Knoxville

Det, Surgical Co. A, 4th Medical Bn.
Phone: 865-673-0407

Co. D, 4th CEB

Phone: 423-467-2193

Memphis

Co. K, 3rd Bn., 23rd Marines
Phone: 907-324-9425/30

Nashville

Co. I, 3rd Bn., 24th Marines
Phone: 615-352-3386/87

Texas

Austin

Weapons Co., 1st Bn., 23rd Marines
Phone: 512-458-4019

Corpus Christi

Co. C, 1st Bn., 23rd Marines
Phone: 361-961-2885/3235/3271

Dyess AFB

Det 1, Motor T Maintenance Co., 4th
Maintenance Bn.
Phone: 915-695-7867

El Paso

Btry. D, 2nd Bn., 14th Marines

Phone: 915-566-8697

Fort Worth

HQ, MAG-41

Phone: 817-782-7402/03

Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron

234, MAG-41

Phone: 817-782-5757

Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA)112,

MAG-41

Phone: 817-782-5300

Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 41,

MAG-41

Phone: 817-782-7071

Air Traffic Control Det A, Marine Air

Control Squadron 24, MACG-48

Phone: 817-782-5208

Det B, Marine Wing Support Squadron 473,

MWSG-47

Phone: 817-782-7470

4th Dental Co., 4th Dental Bn.

Phone: 817-782-5100

HQ Btry., 14th Marines

Phone: 817-782-5800

NBC Single Site Storage Facility

Phone: 817-558-6757

Grand Prairie

HQ Btry. (-), 2nd Bn., 14th Marines

Phone: 972-343-4300

Galveston

3rd Plt., Co. B, 4th AAB

Phone: 409-766-3723

Harlingen

Det, Co. C, 1st Bn., 23rd Marines

Phone: 956-425-9643

Houston

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Phone: 713-796-1260

Co. A, 1st Bn., 23rd Marines

Phone: 713-796-1260

Lubbock

Direct Support Motor Transport Co. B (-),

6th MTB

Phone: 806-763-2853/54/55

San Antonio

H&S Co., 4th Reconnaissance Bn.

Phone: 210-223-1551

Co. A, 4th Reconnaissance Bn.

Phone: 210-223-1551

Co. C, 4th Reconnaissance Bn.

Phone: 210-223-1551

Texarkana

**Bulk Fuel Plt., General Support Motor T Co.,
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**Waco
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Phone: 254-772-5541**

**Utah
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Co. C, 4th LAR Bn.
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**Salt Lake City
Co. F (-), 2nd Bn., 23rd Marines
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**Virginia
Dam Neck
HQ, Marine Air Control Squadron 24,
MACG-48
Phone: 757-492-6465/66**

**Tactical Air Operation Center Det, Marine Air
Control Squadron 24, MACG-48
Phone: 757-492-6465**

**Det. 2, CI/HUMINT Co.
Phone: 757-492-6465/66**

**Lynchburg
Co. C, 4th CEB
Phone: 804-239-1719**

**Newport News
H&S Co., 4th Supply Bn.
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**Medical Logistics Co., 4th Supply Bn.
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**Det., Surgical Co. B, 4th Med Bn.
Phone: 757-247-9001, ex 262**

**Norfolk
Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron (HMM),
774, MAG-42
Phone: 757-444-8691/7818**

**Co. A, 4th Assault Amphibian Bn.
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**Quantico
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**Roanoke
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Surgical Co. B (-), 4th Med Bn.
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West Virginia

Moundsville

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South Charleston

Co. A, 4th CEB
Phone: 304-776-4806

Wisconsin

Madison

Co. G, 2nd Bn., 24th Marines
Phone: 608-241-2022

Milwaukee

Co. F, 2nd Bn., 24th Marines
Phone: 414-481-3860

Wyoming

Cheyenne

Tactical Air Operations Center Det, MACG-48
Phone: 307-637-0358





4/14 garners DoD family readiness award

Sgt. Katesha Niman
Headquarters Marine Corps

HEADQUARTERS MARINE CORPS – Marines have a lot to worry about when going on six-month long deployments and being shipped out to war. The last thing they need to worry about when trying to accomplish the Corps' mission is the welfare of their families.

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs understands the importance of taking care of service members' families.

On behalf of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Reserve Affairs, Honorable Craig W. Duehring, recently recognized the top Marine Reserve command that demonstrates outstanding family readiness while maintaining superior mission readiness.

Duehring presented the Reserve

Family Readiness Award to 4th Battalion, 14th Marine Regiment for their improved family readiness programs and effective support networks.

"Since 1776, the reserves and national guard were always the first to be called on in time of war, so taking care of their families has always been a priority," Duehring said in his remarks to the awardees.

In the last several months, America has recognized the critical role the reserves play in keeping the nation safe. However, no one has witnessed the importance of being ready at a moment's notice than reserve families.

"When it's time for our Marines to go, they have to go and they can't be worried about whether or not their families are being taken care of," said Angela Martin, Key Volunteer Coordinator for 4th Bn, 14th Marines.

Martin accepted the award on behalf of her command which is headquartered Bessemer, Ala., and has units in Hunts-



Official DoD Photo

Angela Martin, key volunteer coordinator for 4th Battalion, 14th Marines, accepts the DoD Reserve Family Readiness Award for her unit from Craig W. Duehring (left), principal deputy assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs.

ville, Ala., and Chattanooga, Tenn.

"This award means a lot to us because we really do a good job with constantly training the Marines and their families for possible deployments and separations. We want to let them know there is somebody out there to take care of them," Martin said with an enormous smile on her face.

The 14th Marines' dedication to family readiness represents the entire Marine Forces Reserve's efforts to making sure families are prepared when their Marines are called to active duty.

"When a Marine leaves his or her family behind, who's going to take care of them? We (the unit) will," Martin said. "It's important that they always know that."

Editor's Note: Marine Air Control Group 48 and I Marine Expeditionary Force Augmentation Command Element were also nominated for the award.



Sgt. Katesha Niman

Jeanine Dickson, Division key Volunteer Coordinator; Maj. Gen. Kevin Kuklok, Assistant Deputy Commandant, Plans, Policy and Operations; Angela Martin, Battalion Key Volunteer Coordinator; Lt. Col. Nick Klaus, Battalion Inspector-Instructor; Heather Shellenberger, Division Key Volunteer Coordinator; and Lt. Col. Mark Batchelor, Commanding Officer of 4th Bn., 14th Marines.



We support Marines, Sailors—Garden City, N.Y.

Sgt. Sam Kille

Marine Forces Reserve, New Orleans

GARDEN CITY, N.Y. — When terrorists brought down the World Trade Center's Twin Towers—killing thousands—Sept. 11, they made a lasting impact on the lives of many, especially in the suburbs where many victims lived. One of the hardest hit towns was Garden City, N.Y., a small, close-knit village nestled on Long Island which lost 80 residents.

However, living the words of a once popular U2 song, *"...though they take your life, they cannot take your pride..."*, the residents of Garden City are letting their pride show through their support of the Marines and sailors of 2nd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment. The reserve infantry unit, headquartered in the village, was activated Jan. 14, to provide operational relief for the II

Marine Expeditionary Force, based in Camp Lejeune, N.C. The unit departed Long Island Jan. 20, but not before being recognized by the community.

"Garden City has adopted this unit as its own," said Gunnery Sgt. James DuPont, a Garden City resident and the company gunny for Headquarters and Service Company. "They definitely are standing behind us."

The village's support for the Marines is most evident along Stewart Avenue, a tree-lined thoroughfare which leads past the reserve center. Adorned on each tree are yellow ribbons and American flags. One block from the unit's home is Stewart School, a public elementary school. Along its fence is a huge sign exclaiming, "Stewart School Supports the U.S. Marine Corps!"

The school's expression of support didn't end there.

"The students at the school made little cards with drawings and messages like 'God Bless America' for all the

Marines," said DuPont. The cards, which were laminated, are small enough to be carried by the Marines in their pants' pockets.

Yet the most moving gift to the unit came via the efforts of DuPont's wife, Kathy, and John Spellman, a lawyer from Garden City who is assisting the families of Trade Center victims. The two spearheaded an effort to present an American flag to the battalion on behalf of the village. The flag, which was signed by victims' families, police officers, firefighters, and patriotic residents of the village, will travel with the battalion, wherever its activation may carry it.

"This is a small community and we wanted these Marines to know how proud we are of them," said Kathy. "We hope they all come home safe and soon."

Marine keeps his cool in icy weather

Capt. Jenny Potter

PWST, Co.A, 8th Tanks

FORT KNOX, Ky. – Just being at the right place at the right time isn't enough. You've got to be ready, willing and able to do whatever the situation calls for. For Lance Cpl. Steven T. Cox, a reserve Marine serving with Company A, 8th Tank Battalion, Fort Knox, the call came early one snowy January morning as he was on his way to drill.

A car right in front of him had skidded off the road and overturned in a ditch. "I was stunned," remembered Cox, 19, of Louisville, Ky. "I didn't know what to do at first. And then I realized I needed to go help them."

Inside the car was an elderly couple.



Photo by Capt. Jenny Potter

Winter driving along Kentucky roadways can be hazardous, as Marine Lance Cpl. Steven T. Cox can attest.

Fortunately, they were wearing their seatbelts at the time of the accident, and had already unbuckled when Cox reached their car.

After being assisted from their vehicle, the couple thanked Cox, saying how lucky they were that he had been there to help them. They asked if he would take them to the gas station down the road.

"They had called for help," Cox said, "and they said their family would be on the way."

The accident served as a wake-up call for Cox. "It made me think about how fast I would actually try to go during this type of weather, and I slowed my speed down," he stated. "I thought I would be late (to drill), but was actually on time."

"It made me feel very good and proud of myself, knowing that I was there at the right time to be able to help someone," Cox concluded.

CM



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Marine Corps merchandise is now available through the Camp Lejeune MCX "Semper Fi Shop" online at www.usmcexchange.com.

You can also shop the "Exchange Online" - a DoD service provided by the Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES). Access is available through the MCCS web site at www.usmc-mccs.org or MarForRes home page at www.mfr.usmc.mil.

Ft. Knox Marines conduct combat water and rescue training

Capt. Jenny Potter

PWST, Co. A., 8th Tanks

FORT KNOX, Ky. — Wearing full combat gear, Marines simulate towing a passive victim, two packs, and two weapons 25 meters. Although air and ground operations are its bread and butter, it couldn't be the Marine Corps if water didn't weigh in as a key element of its overall mission. Marines must have the ability to survive in water. Combat water survival and rescue training is the means by which Marines achieve and demonstrate this ability to survive. The Marines of Fort Knox's Company A, 8th Tank Battalion, Marine Forces Reserve, recently had the opportunity to participate in swim training. During the drill weekend of Oct. 27-28, a Marine Corps water survival swim instructor was on hand to instruct and test both active duty and Reserve personnel who needed to update their swim qualification scores.

"This was the first time we've ever had them," Gunnery Sgt. Scott G. Mead, Inspector-Instructor Training Chief for Company A, said of the swim instructor personnel who came to Fort Knox to oversee the qualification process.

"It was my goal before I left here to get them swim qualified." That goal was achieved during the two-day period of instruction, when 91 Marines updated their swim qualification scores to bring the unit up to an overall qualification rate of 91.5 percent. Thirteen Marines qualified at level CWS4, the minimum requirement for all enlisted Marines and members of the Select Marine Corps Reserve (requalification after two years); 56 Marines qualified at CWS3, an intermediate skill level (requalification after three years); 13 Marines qualified at CWS2, the minimum requirement for officers and

special combat specialties (requalification after four years); and nine Marines qualified at CWS1, a demanding test of water survival endurance that exempts Marines from swim training for five years.

The training had its challenges, even for some of the unit's better swimmers. For Sgt. Brent B. Salisbury, 1st Platoon, that challenge came during CWS1, when the swim instructor, playing the role of a panicking, drowning person, latched onto him and started to take him under. "When the guy tried to drown me, that was one of the harder parts. They (swim qualification instructors) swim like fish, so it's hard to get them off of you," Sgt. Salisbury stated. The training, however, paid off, and Sgt. Salisbury was able to gain control of the situation and qualify at CWS1.

The last time Staff Sgt. Gregory A. Wright, 1st Platoon, had taken part in Marine Corps swim training was during boot camp in 1989. Then, he only had the opportunity to progress up to CWS4. Changes in the regulations left him

unfamiliar with some of the stages and guidelines of swim qualification, but he was set on capitalizing on the opportunity to progress to the highest swim qualification level the training schedule would allow. "I was going to go as far as I could — leadership by example," he stated. "Personally, I wanted to see how much I could do as a Marine in that environment. That's not something we get to do on a daily basis."

As the challenges grew increasingly difficult, the Marines who progressed to CWS1 looked to each other for the strength and willpower to excel. "We motivated each other," said Staff Sgt. Wright. "We were not going to quit — that's the bottom line."

The training was a valuable experience, agreed HM1 Michael T. Gonterman, the unit's Corpsman, who served for eight years on active duty in Navy search and rescue billets. "It was good for the young Marines, especially the ones who went all the way to 1st Class," he concluded.

CM



Capt. Jenny Potter

Wearing full combat gear, Marines simulate towing a passive victim, two packs and two weapons for 25 meters.

Marine Air Control Squadron earns top award

Maj. Barry Kimbrough

PWST, MACS-24

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. — After 16 years of competition, a Marine Reserve squadron wrestled the coveted Edward S. Fris Award from the active duty command and control squadrons. On Dec. 1, Marine Air Control Squadron 24 was presented the annual award for the most outstanding Marine Aviation Command and Control Squadron in Marine aviation for the period of May 1, 2000 to April 30, 2001.

Established in 1985 by the Marine Corps Aviation Association (MCAA), the award bears the name of Maj. Gen. Edward S. Fris, a pioneer in the development of Marine Corps Aviation Command and Control, and is sponsored by the Raytheon Corporation.

The award is typically presented at the annual MCAA Aviation Symposium and Convention, which was to be held this year in San Diego in September. However, the events of September 11th caused the MCAA to cancel this year's convention. MACS-24 did not lose out though.

Presenting the award on behalf of the MCAA was Brig. Gen. Jack Bergman, commanding general of 4th Marine Aircraft Wing, higher headquarters for MACS-24. Bergman, addressing the squadron during its weekend drill, said, "It is much more pleasurable to present this award to you Marines here at MACS-24, because without you, (it) doesn't happen. You all are the epitome of communications in passing and receiving messages and getting it right the first time."

Lt. Col. Charlie Iaquinto, squadron commander, accepted the award.

"I have been telling them for 18 months they are the best squadron in Command and Control, that I would match them against anyone in the Marine Corps," Iaquinto said. "This award shows them their hard work and dedication is recognized."

MACS-24 was cited for distinguished performance in deployments around the globe in support of numerous joint and multinational exercises and operations; providing operational tempo relief of the active component; and serving as a source for innovation and the development of emerging technologies. These include

the Cooperative Engagement Capability and the Single Integrated Air Picture.

The unit was also cited for countless hours of community outreach, including support of the St. Mary's Home for Disabled Children and the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program.

"This is a coup for MACS-24 and the Marine Corps Reserve as a whole," said Maj. Sid McGraw, MACS-24 Operations Officer. "It validates our long term efforts to train and fight as a Total Force of Marines, active and reserve."



Maj. Barry Kimbrough

Lt. Col. Charlie Iaquinto, commanding officer of Marine Air Control Squadron 24, shows off the the Edward S. Fris Award that MACS-24 received on Dec. 1, 2001.

Maj. Ward Quinn, MACS-24 site commander, added, "This award is a testimony to the hard work and professionalism of all the Marines in the command. The Marines here are what made the difference. The sacrifices they make every day to be Marines is amazing and it is great to see them recognized for their commitment."

This is the second time in the past year that MACS-24 has been recognized for outstanding achievements in the Marine aviation community. In March 2001, the unit was awarded the High Intercept Trophy, which is presented annually, to the outstanding unit in 4th MAW. MACS-24 has received this award five times since its inception in 1980 and the last two years in a row.

CM

VMGR-234 still flying 60 years later

Lance Cpl. Damian McGee

Marine Forces Reserve, New Orleans

NAVAL AIR STATION, JOINT RESERVE BASE, FT. WORTH, Texas

— In 1942 a small scout bomber squadron was commissioned and a legacy was born. Sixty years later, Marines who helped forge and continue that legacy came together here, Feb. 14-17. They came to celebrate pride in their squadron, their dedication to the Corps, and a sense of accomplishment. The reunion also coincided with the squadron's change of command.

"The epic of Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 234 spans 60 years," said Lt. Col. Ken Hopper, outgoing commanding officer, VMGR-234. "During this time, the squadron has endured the heat of Henderson Field, the trials of carrier aviation, the cold of Korea, and the sands of Iraq. All those who worked in the squadron in the past 60 years propelled 234 to the level of excellence for which it is known for today."

The 60th anniversary celebration was a special affair for the veterans of WWII, Korea, Vietnam, and Desert

Shield/Desert Storm who gathered here to share stories, rekindle old friendships, and meet the Marines who are carrying on the legacy today.

"Through their awards and performance, both in and out of theater, VMGR-234 and its history are an exemplary depiction of what it means to be a Marine," said Lt. Gen. William "Spider" Nyland, deputy commandant for aviation, Headquarters, Marine Corps. "This is a real representation of the 'Total Force' concept. It's a family that never goes away."

The unit was originally commissioned as Marine Scout Bomber Squadron (VMSB) 234 on April 1, 1942, at Marine Corps Air Station Ewa, Hawaii. Following eight months of intensive flight training, the squadron deployed for combat operations in the South Pacific. On Jan. 28, 1943, after ferrying their SBD-3 dive bombers to Henderson Field, Guadalcanal, and joining forces with Marine Aircraft Group 14, the squadron entered the war.

For the next year, the squadron completed three combat tours supporting operations in Guadalcanal, the Solomon Islands, Bougainville and New Georgia and bombing the "Tokyo Express."

The missions flown played an integral part in the outcome of the war. Whether it was destroying an airfield, providing maintenance support to another unit or helping a new pilot learn how to fly combat

missions, '234 was always ready.

"My first combat mission occurred after only four hours on the island. In fact, I arrived at 11:00 p.m., settled in, and was woken by the squadron duty



Photo courtesy VMGR-234

The TBM Avenger, used by VMTB-234 while aboard the USS Vella Gulf, 1944-1946.

officer at three in the morning," said retired Lt. Col. Ralph Lewis, a Guadalcanal veteran. "I was told to get my gear and man an aircraft. Although I hadn't received any type of flight brief, I was told to simply start my engines, take off, and follow the other aircraft."

"After a series of incidents, including radios that did not work, which did not allow me to communicate with the other aircraft, I took off late and found myself in the middle of the Pacific Ocean with no other birds in sight," Lewis said. "I flew two hours without ever seeing land, and completed my trip by returning to the wrong airfield. That was my introduction to combat."

During the early stages of the war, the squadron participated in various airfield strikes, and anti-shipping, and close-air-support operations against the Japanese military. Although the unit succeeded in all assigned missions, shooting down five enemy aircraft, destroying numerous Japanese ships and aircraft on the ground, not everyone



Lance Cpl. Damian McGee

A veteran remembers flying the SBD.

returned home in December 1943. The squadron had two Marines missing-in-action, five killed-in-action, and four aircraft lost during combat operations.

Those who survived WWII had stories of heroism to carry with them for the rest of their lives.

One such Marine earned his spot in history on Feb. 1, 1943, while on a strike mission against Munda Airfield, New Georgia. Sgt. Gilbert Henze was the backseat gunner when his aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire, immediately killing the pilot.

Because the SBD was fitted with a stick and basic instruments in the rear, Henze took control of the aircraft and began to fly back to base with the help of Maj.

Vroome, the pilot of another bomber close to Henze, who provided instructions over the radio.

But things got worse. The fuel in the aircraft was running low and Henze was unable to switch to an alternate fuel tank. And then Vroome's radio failed before he could tell Henze how to bail out of the plane. As the plane began a steep dive towards the ground, Henze parachuted from the plane, relying on the little training he had received. He hit the aircraft stabilizer on the way out and amputated his foot. When his parachute finally opened he could apply pressure to the wound until landing in the ocean where the salt water stopped the flow of blood. Somehow Henze survived.

The friendships formed between the Marines of the squadron during combat were evident during the reunion.

Combat veterans, many who had not seen each other or the SBD since WWII, were reduced to tears when reunited.

"We believed in what we were doing and we always gave it our all," said Tech. Sgt. Ray Neal, backseat gunner,

VMSB-234 (1942-1944), and recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross, nine Air Medals, and the Purple Heart. "There were so many who did not return."

Two months after returning to American soil, the unit began transition training to the TBM Avenger, a torpedo bomber that would be desperately needed as the U.S. began its push to Japan. The squadron's designation was changed to Marine Torpedo Bomber Squadron (VMTB) 234.

Once the new aircraft arrived and training commenced for carrier duty, the designation was changed again to VMTB(CVS)-234. The squadron

when the war ended. The squadron remained with the Vella Gulf through the end of the war. Once the carrier returned to the states, the squadron was reassigned to Marine Corps Air Station Santa Barbara in October 1945, and then reassigned again in March 1946 to MAG-33 at MCAS El Toro, Calif. Immediately following their reassignment, the squadron was decommissioned in March 1946.

Less than a year later, the unit was recommissioned, and its legacy was taken up by some of the Marines who spoke at the 60th anniversary celebration.

"The commanding officer came to me and told me that we were being recommissioned and asked if I wanted to be the Sergeant Major," said retired Sgt. Maj. Bob "Devil" De Villiers. "I was elated and quickly accepted the offer. Then, he told me that we had exactly one month to put our unit back together and fully staff the squadron."

It was a seemingly impossible task, but the commanding officer Maj. Ted Wojick and Sgt. Maj. De Villiers completed it, overcoming unforeseen difficulties.

"You would think it would be hard to find people," De Villiers said. "But, our problem was just the opposite.

We actually had to turn people away. We had more Marines than we could use and we had to tell some 'no'."

Able to select from a large pool of Marines, the unit was formed stronger than ever. Everyone involved wanted to be a part of the new Marine Fighter Squadron (VMF) 234 and all it would accomplish.

"We didn't have to worry about people getting in trouble or anything like that," De Villiers said. "They knew as well as we did, that if they became a problem or did not perform up to our standards, that we still had hundreds of



Photo courtesy VMGR-234

A composite picture of the squadron's history drawn by former Marine Staff Sgt. Ron Hughes.

would be assigned to the USS Vella Gulf, alongside VMF-513, forming Marine Carrier Air Group 3.

The Marine Carrier Air Group was a new concept to Naval aviation. The mission of these small escort carriers was to assist and provide more impact to combatant operations with the larger carriers.

The squadron began combat sorties (single plane attacks) against the enemy in the Pagan Island campaign, the Rota Islands Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides and was moving into position to support the attack on the Japanese mainland

Marines knocking the door down to get back in.”

July 1, 1947, was the official re-commissioning date. Even though the squadron was commissioned in San Diego, with a new aircraft, the F-4U Corsair, its final home for the next 22 years would be the new Naval Air

“Many people got a wake up call last September, but not the people here. This is what we do and we’re ready for the challenge.”

Brig. Gen. J. W. Bergman

Station in Minneapolis, Minn.

After this move, the reserve Marines who made up the squadron were all local lawyers, teachers, fireman, police officers and other various occupations, with the Marine Corps and ‘234 as their common link. However, their separation was short lived, as the unit was recalled to active duty in March 1951 to support United Nations forces in Korea. Instead of deploying as a unit though, personnel were sent to augment and re-enforce the three active duty squadrons already engaged in combat.

VMF-234 Marines played an integral role in the U.S.’s war against the communist forces of Korea, continuing their support until the armistice was signed.

The remainder of the decade brought many changes to the squadron. In 1955, the squadron transitioned to another aircraft, the F-9F Panther, and was redesignated Marine Attack Squadron (VMR) 234.

“The F-9F was a slick aircraft ... fun to fly,” said retired Master Sgt. Bernard

Secor, maintenance chief, VMR-234. “When we received the aircraft we could not believe the Marine Corps was going to pay us to fly this machine. On the other hand, when we received the AD-5 Skyraider in 1958 we were impressed with how big and rugged the aircraft was, nothing but power,” Secor added.

The C-119 “Flying Boxcar,” affectionately known as the “Dollar Nineteen,” arrived in January 1962 and the squadron designation was changed again to Marine Transport Squadron 234.

“These aircraft were hand-me-downs from the Navy and had the reputation of being unreliable,” Secor said. “As a matter of fact, it was because of the trouble with the aircraft we received the KC-130.”

“After the closure of the base in Minneapolis in 1970 we moved to Naval Air Station Glenview, Ill.,” Secor recalled. “We were tasked to fly the 4th Marine Aircraft Wing commanding

to Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron (VMGR) 234, as they’re known today.

With its new designation and aircraft, the mission of VMGR-234 also changed and grew to providing in-flight fixed-wing and helicopter refueling, transportation of personnel and cargo for delivery by parachute, and landing at austere airstrips. These new missions opened a new era for the Marines of 234.

“This aircraft was a Cadillac compared to the old Dollar Nineteens,” Secor said.

In January 1991, the squadron was activated for the first time since the Korean War, 52 years earlier, to participate in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

“We were not surprised, but instead very eager to provide support to the war effort,” said Lt. Col. Tommy Dietrich, the incoming commanding officer, VMGR-234, who was a captain in the unit at the time.

As part of the 2nd Marine Air Wing, the squadron flew missions to the war, as well as supporting missions in Norway, Europe, the Pacific, and the United States. The squadron remained activated until the summer of 1991.

Three years later, in 1994, VMGR-234 moved again to its current home at NAS JRB Fort Worth, Texas.

Since that move, the unit has been continuing its excellence and earning praise and recognition never before seen by a reserve unit until now.

Awards include the National Defense Transportation Association Award twice, the Marine Corps Reserve Officers Association’s General Carl S. Day Award, the Marine Corps Aviation Association Henry Wildfang Award, the Herman Ridder Award five times, the Chief Naval Officer Safety Award six times, Squadron of the Year award three



Former and current Marines of VMGR-234 gather for the squadron’s 60th anniversary.

general to Cherry Point, N.C. It took us three different C-119s to get him down there, and the last one had only one radio and no heat. Needless to say, he never got back on the aircraft and personally pushed for us to get those aircraft replaced.”

In 1975, the squadron received the KC-130 Hercules and was redesignated

times and Squadron of the Decade for the 1990s by the 23rd Squadron Order of the Daedalians. In 2000, VMGR-234 became the first reserve unit to receive the Commandant's Trophy for Aviation Excellence.

"The squadron has continued to press on with combat training and integration into the active duty forces," said Lt. Col. Hopper. "Today, along with our sister squadron VMGR-452, at Stewart Air National Guard Base, N.Y., we provide dedicated support to the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, Operation Northern Watch, and we are often requested by Army, Navy and Air Force units. We have been



Lance Cpl. Damian McGee

Lt. Col. Thomas Dietrich, (left) and Lt. Col. Ken Hopper, current and former commanding officers of VMGR-234, flank Deputy Commandant for Aviation, Lt. Gen. William Nyland, holding the squadron's Gen. Carl S. Day Award.

stressing readiness and training like we will be employed."

A four-plane detachment from VMGR-234 has been mobilized and deployed to support the global war on terrorism, a task they feel more than ready to tackle.

"Many people got a wake up call last September," said Brig. Gen. Jack W. Bergman, commanding general, 4th MAW. "But not the people here. This is what we do and we're ready for the challenge."

"We don't know what the future holds," Bergman said. "But, we know what we'll do when the future calls."

MAG-46 shares experience with local Sea Cadets

Cpl. Blanca E. Cornejo

Marine Forces Reserve, New Orleans

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION MIRAMAR, Calif. — Reserves aren't the only ones who don't fatigue for the weekend here. Gunfighter Squadron, a Naval Sea Cadets Corps unit, can be found training on the first and third Saturday of every month.

The Sea Cadet squadron, which is sponsored by Marine Aircraft Group 46, is made up of young men and women between the ages of 13 and 17 years old.

Cadets receive instructions in aircraft



Cpl Blanca E. Cornejo

Sea Cadets receive hands on training with the water cannon from Marines attached to MAG 46 Air Fire and Rescue aboard MCAS, Miramar.

maintenance, flight line operations and aviation administration from VFMA-134 Marines. As a squadron, the Gunfighters focus on Naval aviation's role in our maritime services.

"Most cadets join the military after completing the program. Over 33% of them join the Marine Corps," said Chief Fire Controlman Russell E. Evenson, a lieutenant in the sea cadets.

Like Marine reserves, Sea Cadets are required to complete two weeks of annual training. It can consist of training aboard aircraft carriers and minesweepers. Or, they attend various schools, including basic and advanced airman, submarine, music, medical, construction, military police, small boat operations, and others.

"An emphasis in overall training is that these young men and women receive leadership roles and tools they need to succeed in the future," said Scott D. Oram, a lieutenant commander in the Sea Cadets.

While Gunfighter Squadron is organized along military lines, the main purpose of the Naval Sea Cadet Corps is to foster good citizenship and an interest

and appreciation of our nation's seagoing services and their aviation components.

Senior Sea Cadet, Will D. Coutts, a junior at Temecula Valley High School said, "I plan on becoming a naval cryptographer after leaving the cadets. I'm going to Germany for a month over the summer as part of the cadets international exchange program,"

International exchange program selections are based on merit. Candidates must be 16 years old, obtain the rank of Airman (E-3), and have been awarded the NSCC Citation Ribbon. The Citation Ribbon can be earned through meritorious performance at training or being selected as Cadet of the Quarter.

Prospective cadets must pass a basic physical examination, very similar to a high school athletics physical. Gunfighters Squadron issues most uniforms that the cadets will need from their own supply inventory. Currently, the enrollment fee is \$125.00 with an annual fee of \$75.00 for subsequent years.

Chaplains' workshop focuses on terrorism

Lance Cpl. Damian McGee

Marine Forces Reserve, New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS – The war on terrorism was the focus of this year's Reserve Religious Ministry Workshop recently held in New Orleans. More than 300 chaplains and religious program specialist (RPs) gathered to discuss current issues and work together on finding solutions. This is the highest attendance and the first time both Navy and Marine Corps reserves have met together.

"Every year our reserve chaplains bring up issues and trends that confront them and their units," said Rear Adm. Louis Iasiello, chaplain of the Marine Corps, and deputy commander of Navy chaplains. "Chaplains need an opportunity to get together, interact, and work out solutions, and this is a great opportunity for them to do so. In addition, we're going to make sure they're spun up on military actions since nine-eleven and have an orientation concerning

military operations other than war so that they may be utilized effectively at a later date."

The highpoint of the workshop was the insight brought by Lt. Abuhena Saifulislam, currently working out of Camp Pendleton and one of only three Muslim chaplains in the Navy.

However, on a deeper level, the workshop was not only a refresher dealing with the military and religious communities, but was an opportunity to dig deep into other religions and explain things that are prevalent in our society.

With Saifulislam's guidance, attendees were able to discuss controversial issues and obtain a better understanding of today's opposing forces.

"I don't know why they do the things they do," said Saifulislam, regarding the actions of terrorist Islamic networks that profess their foundation is in the Muslim religion.

Saifulislam talked about things such as the variations of the Muslim religion, beliefs of Muslims versus terrorists, and incorporating Muslim religion into Marine Corps activities. He also spent time breaking down and dispelling the myths concerning the Islamic religion.

"During the current situation, we have the media, which is not Islamic based, saying what Islam is... giving a piece of what they know," said Spokane, Wash. native, RPSN Amy Snell, religious program specialist. "But in this case, we have a chaplain who practices Islam, giving us a first hand account. Because of this, we were able to believe him more and he gave clear



Lance Cpl. Damian McGee

and definite answers to questions that many of us, as well as the rest of the world, have. I think we were privileged that he was willing to take the time to speak to us," Snell said.

Although Saifulislam's lecture was a time of learning and discovery for many who attended, his message was subtle yet definitive.

"About half of the world's population is either Muslim or Christian," Saifulislam said. "If we do not find a way to better understand one another in an effort to work together, then we will be destroying ourselves and the generations ahead of us. That's why I do what I do. I want others to clearly understand Islam...the true Islam."

Other highpoints of the workshop included an RPs birthday luncheon, celebrating 23 years of the RP designation. Three sessions were devoted to 'Sharpening your people skills' reinforce the fundamentals used by chaplains on a regular basis. All attendees agreed the conference was a great success.

"Through this training, the chaplains are better informed," said Iasiello. "They're better informed and equipped to use their God-given skills to minister to the people they serve."



Lance Cpl. Damian McGee

Lt. Abuhena Saifulislam, one of three Muslim chaplains, talks about Islam during one of his presentations. Saifulislam discussed the variations of the Muslim religion and the beliefs of the Muslims versus terrorists, as well as breaking down and dispelling the myths of Islam.

CM

Recon Marine to honorary peace officer

Cpl. Dave Winter

Marine Forces Reserve, New Orleans

PALO ALTO, Calif. – Staff Sgt. Gary Mokuau was presented with an honorary award from the California Department of Forestry on Dec. 12, here, for his outstanding service to the organization.

Mokuau, a platoon sergeant with 4th Force Reconnaissance Company in Honolulu, set up training classes for the CDF to train their academy students which were incorporated into two 5-day surveillance training courses held in Northern California.

Last June, Mokuau was paralyzed in an accident while helping his parents clear trees at their home in Kailua, Hawaii, while on leave. He underwent physical therapy at the Veterans Administration Hospital, here.

When the news of Mokuau's accident reached those he had trained in the CDF, they were shocked and felt they needed to recognize him for all of his work in training them over the last three years. CDF Battalion Chief Frank W. Steel Jr. sought to make Mokuau an honorary Peace Officer with the CDF.

Steel presented the award at a small ceremony at the VA Hospital, speaking very highly of Mokuau and regarding him as a great leader who left a piece of himself in all of the Peace Officers he trained.

"He [Mokuau] has that magic leadership instilled in him," said Steel.

Mokuau, who was shocked and humbled to receive the award, said he plans to return to school and get



Cpl. Dave Winter

Calif. Department of Forestry Battalion Chief Frank W. Steele Jr. presents an honorary CDF Peace Officer award to Staff Sgt. Gary Mokuau who helped train CDF cadets as a platoon sergeant with 4th Force Recon.

back into the work force, emphasizing that he is not going to sit around and let the world pass him by. Mokuau also said he is going to enjoy his time with his wife, Tina, and his two sons, Mitch and Garrison, when he returns to home to Hawaii.

CM



Maj. Gen. Jack Davis, commanding general of the 4th Marine Division, presents a new Bronze Star and Purple Heart to retired 2nd Lt. Dan Gardner, of Gladstone, Va. All of Gardner's original awards and medals were lost in a fire Jan. 18, 2001.

Reserves assist Marine Corps

4th Recon Bn. tests new technology

Sgt. Jason Blair

Quantico Public Affairs

MARINE CORPS BASE

QUANTICO, Va. — Recent events have highlighted a possible retooling of the Marine Corps policy on urban warfare. In an effort to increase thinking on potential inner-city battles, Quantico's Marine Corps Warfighting Lab and Systems Command recently teamed up with reserve Marines from the 4th Recon Battalion, Charlie Company in San Antonio, Texas, to test new reconnaissance technology.

The research done aboard Quantico was conducted at the FBI Academy's Hogan's Alley and The Basic School's Night Integrated Training Environment. The training was a prelude to an upcoming series of experiments sponsored by the Warfighting Lab, in North Little Rock, Ark., from Feb. 10 - 22. Called Project Metropolis, the experiments are an attempt to find better ways of conducting peace support and peace enforcement operations in an urban environment.

In North Little Rock, the project will examine three venues: urban security operations, urban ground reconnaissance; and a tabletop wargame with leaders of North Little Rock and the newly formed 4th Marine Expeditionary Brigade (Anti-Terrorism). Players in the experiment at North Little Rock include the six reserve Marines, about 300 personnel from 4th MEB, Marines from 3rd Bn., 23rd Marines, North Little Rock, and dozens of North Little Rock civilian volunteers.

In Quantico, the project focused on the second venue: urban ground reconnaissance. According to Capt. Brian Von Herbulis, the Reconnaissance

and Surveillance Officer for the Reconnaissance and Surveillance and Target Acquisition (RSTA) project at the Warfighting Lab, getting the six reserve Marines up to speed was a must.

"The Marine Corps has no real doctrine on urban ground reconnaissance so we're here to develop the procedures for recon and sniper Marines to effectively provide critical information in an urban built-up environment," said Von Herbulis. "We're taking baby steps on the development of these tactics, techniques and procedures and we needed input as to whether or not they think what we're giving them really works."

Part of those baby steps included time at the FBI Academy's Hogan's Alley and the NITE lab.

"Before we went to Arkansas, we had to make sure these Marines understood what was happening," said Von Herbulis. "Essentially, Hogan's Alley and the NITE lab were rehearsals for what they were doing there. They gave a somewhat realistic urban environment to do their preparatory training."

According to Mike Phillips, an instructor/trainer at the FBI Academy, whose duties also include managing the mock town, Hogan's Alley is an excellent training tool.

"It's like an MGM production town," said Phillips. "What you see isn't what you always get. This allows for anyone to train in a variety of environments in which they would find themselves in everyday life. It's as close to reality as you can get without putting them on the street."

Another aspect of the realistic training was done at The Basic School.

Gunnery Sgt. David Williams, director of the prototype Night Integrated Training Environment lab at TBS said that although he wasn't sure why the 4th Recon Marines needed to use the facility, he knows that Marines don't train enough at night.

"In this facility you could train 24 hours a day, seven days a week and it wouldn't matter if it was bright and sunny or the middle of the night," said Williams. "We wanted to make the training as realistic as possible."

The first week of the experiments, Feb. 11 - 15, consisted of the urban reconnaissance experiment and preparations for Lab personnel. The Company Security Operations Experiment begins on Feb. 18 and ends Feb. 21. Command Staff Exercises will go Feb. 19-21 and all personnel will depart North Little Rock Feb. 23.



Sgt. Jason Blair

Reserves roleplay as the Opposing Force for the Company Security Operations Experiment.

Warfighting Lab experiments

Marines play 'OpFor' to 4th MEB (AT)

Sgt. Jason Blair
Quantico Public Affairs

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, Ark. –

Fourteen reserve Marines became “David” to the “Goliath” of almost 300 Marines from the 4th Marine Expeditionary Brigade (Anti-Terrorism) in the Marine Corps Warfighting Lab’s recent North Little Rock Urban Security Operations Experiment.

Reserve Marines from India Company, 3rd Bn., 23rd Marines here and the Anti-Tank Reserve Training Company of Broken Arrow, Ok., were tasked to be the aggressor force against the 4th MEB (AT) Marines. Sgt. Danny Lehman, Opposition Force 1st Platoon sergeant said, “I don’t know if we won or not, but I know we inflicted a lot more casualties than they expected us to.”

Pfc. Kenneth Howard, an OPFOR rifleman in 1st Squad, 1st Platoon said he hoped the Marines of 4th MEB (AT) would take this training seriously.

“In the first briefing, when they saw us walk in, a lot of those guys said, ‘oh, there’s only fourteen—shoot, we’re gonna kick their you know what,’” said Howard. “What they failed to realize is that we’ve got more experience than 90 percent of them. They got their butts handed to them.”

Howard added that this challenge is nowhere near what they may face in the future. At one instance in the evolution, they were asked by an observer/controller to “take it easy on them, their morale is going down.”

“Those guys in Afghanistan are not just going to lay down and die,” said the Pine Bluff, Ark. native. “To them,

death is real and it’s serious. I hope these guys leave here understanding that.”

During most training evolutions, opposing forces are pulled from the existing units where familiarity can quickly lead to contempt. Although the Marine Corps currently trains with opposing forces in many scenarios, Capt. Timothy Walker, OPFOR commander said, “rarely do you have a dedicated group of individuals trained to be an opposition force.



Sgt. Jason Blair

Reserve Marines, who roleplayed as the opposing force, are subdued by the 4th MEB (AT) Marines during the Company Security Operations Experiment in North Little Rock, Feb. 19-21.

“It’s a huge advantage because the guys, the reserve Marines, are Arkansas natives for the most part,” said Walker. “They’re more familiar with

the area and the people and how things are run, just like it would be if we were going to operate in a foreign country.”

In addition to the training and experience the Corps receives, one man on the OPFOR team has other ties to the community that his employers hope to put to use. As a leader in the local Reserve community, he feels that it’s his duty to make better Marines.

“Just like the leadership principles, ‘know yourself and seek self improvement,’” said Staff Sgt. Henry Moore, staff noncommissioned officer in charge of the OPFOR and a member of the Little Rock SWAT team. “I saw the North Little Rock exercise and the chance to be an opposing force as an opportunity to be an asset to the Marine Corps, the SWAT team and myself.”

Sgt. Jim Scott, the public information officer for North Little Rock Police Department, agrees that the town’s self-improvement can only be helped by working with the tools already in hand.

“Even though our goals aren’t the same as in the military, we’re finding that there’s areas where they’re almost identical, bringing tactics and ideas to the table that we can’t normally get and giving the Marine Corps bits and pieces that they never thought of before,” said Scott, a 27-year veteran with the department.

“Marines need to go anywhere on a moments notice,” said Moore. “The problem is that you can’t simulate the reality of 100 role players or a barking, chained dog. This training does that.”

CM

MCRSC Marines show Young Marines the way to make a difference

Sgt. Laura C. Pingree

Marine Corps Reserve Support Command

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — While children across Kansas were busy on a winter Saturday morning doing “kid” things, like watching cartoons and playing video games, 11 Great Plains Young Marines were busy making a difference in the world, led by three Marines from the Marine Corps Reserve Support Command in Kansas City, Mo.

Collectively, Staff Sgt. Weinberg Allen, MCRSC Transportation Chief, Sgt. Lawrence Hall, MCRSC Legal Service Chief and Sgt. Alexander Lamberth, MCRSC Facilities and Motor Transport Clerk, have spent more than 12 years serving as role models in the Marine Corps League sponsored Young Marines program and more than 25 years serving their country as United States Marines.

Although one of MCRSC’s main missions is to provide administrative support for the mobilization of the Marine Corps Reserve, the Marines feel that they can contribute more to efforts overseas than what’s expected of them. “Even though we’re physically here in the United States,” said Senior Drill Instructor Lamberth, “we can still do our

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part help less fortunate people overseas.”

The “troops,” all between the ages of 9 and 15, teamed up Saturday, Jan. 26 with Heart-to-Heart International, a relief and development organization that specializes in volunteer action and worldwide humanitarian assistance, to sort and load medical supplies, eventually to be airlifted and donated to hospitals in Uzbekistan. Heart-to-Heart International began in 1992, not long after the fall of Communism in Europe. A group of Rotarians from Olathe, Kan., led by Dr. Gary Morsch, recognized the medical needs of the people of Russia, and began what has become Heart-to-Heart International.

Heart-to-Heart is planning several airlifts to the people of Uzbekistan, and has also organized similar supply drops in to poor districts of Vietnamese cities. According to Dan Neal, Heart-to-Heart’s project and logistics coordinator for international programs, Heart to Heart is also involved in educating Chinese pediatricians in neonatal resuscitation and building a mobile eye hospital designed to provide much needed cataract surgeries to those who can’t afford it.

Heart-to-Heart couldn’t have asked for better help with their latest project, according to Neal. “I loved working with the Young Marines,” he said. Heart-to-Heart has also worked together with several other youth organizations such as church groups, Boy Scouts of America and Girl Scouts of America. “Compared with other youth organizations we’ve worked with in the past, they were younger than the other kids, but just as capable,” said Neal. “I was impressed with their eagerness to help and their ability to follow instructions.”

Those words are music to commanding officer Allen’s ears. “That’s what makes it all worth it,” he said. “It’s important to get the young people out into the community. They need guidance, and they need to know that the little things they do can make a difference.” Allen has been involved with various Young Marines programs for more than eight years.

According to the Young Marines’ official website, (<http://theyoungmarines.org>) the program was officially established as the Marine Corps’ contribution to Youth Drug Demand Reduction efforts in July 1993. Since then, more than 200 Young Marine units have become active across the United States and in Okinawa. There are now more than 14,000 Young Marine members, and about



Sgt. Laura C. Pingree

Great Plains Young Marine Pfc. Chris English, 10, sorts medical supplies at the Heart-to-Heart International warehouse, during a recent Young Marines community service project.



Sgt. Laura C. Pingree

Sgt. Alexander Lamberth, MCRSC Motor Transport and Facilities Chief and Great Plains Young Marines Senior Drill Instructor, assists two Great Plains Young Marines in the sorting of medical supplies during a recent community service project with Heart to Heart, International.

1,800 adult volunteers. Children as young as 8 can join the program, and can remain Young Marines until completion of high school. "The youth learn the general Young Marine subjects such as history, close-order drill, physical fitness,

customs and courtesies, and military rank structure," according to the web site. "Young Marines eventually earn rank and ribbons for achievements in areas such as leadership, drug demand reduction, communication, community service, and academic achievements."

Two years ago, the Kansas City area was home to several existing Young Marines detachments, however, none were located in the Johnson County, Kan. area. "We saw a need for a unit in Johnson County and we went for it," said Hall, detachment executive officer. Hall, along with Allen, has been with the Great Plains Young Marines detachment since it began in 2000. "I enjoy teaching, and I love being a Marine," said Hall. "This gives me the opportunity to do both."

The children, according to Hall, are eager to continue to volunteer their time to causes and organizations like Heart to Heart. "They had a blast," said Hall. "They like the way it feels to do something that will benefit people who aren't as fortunate as they are." And thanks to Allen, Hall and Lamberth, and their dedication, leadership and desire to make a difference, eleven members of the next generation are on their way to making a difference of their own.



Daughter follows in Marine Mom's footsteps



Sgt. Michael A. Freeman

RS Portland, Ore.

CWO-3 Phyllis Paden, Headquarters and Service Company personnel officer at 6th Engineer Support Battalion, administers the oath of enlistment to her daughter Lauren Jean Manhardt at the Military Entrance Processing Station in Portland, Ore. Manhardt will begin basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island March 25. Manhardt will serve in the legal or administration fields and received the \$50,000 Marine Corps Scholarship Fund. Paden, who is anticipating a transfer to Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, says she is very proud of her daughter and hopes she will be assigned to a Southern California duty station, so the two can be close.

Country Singer Gone Marine

Staff Sgt. Jeff Middleton
Recruiting Station, New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS – When Marine Lance Cpl. Blake Luquette, was a kid, he had a dream of becoming a country music singer. By the time he was 18, he was recording the vocals on his second album, and realized his dream had come true. But this was only one of two dreams he had.

“Ever since I was a kid, I wanted to be a Marine,” said the Abbeville, La., native Luquette. “As time went by, I kept hearing people say ‘I wished I would have joined the Marines, but now I’m too old and it’s too late.’ I didn’t want to miss my opportunity.”

Luquette’s journey to accomplish his first dream began more than ten years ago when he saw George Strait, a country music singer, in concert.

“I knew right then that I wanted to be a country singer,” said Luquette. “My mother bought me a guitar and the rest is history.”

In 1998, at the age of 17, he had signed with a local New Orleans record label and had cut his first release, ‘What If.’

While he was still recording his second album in early 2001, entitled “Anything can happen”, Luquette enlisted in the Marine Corps. As soon as he finished recording the vocals, he shipped out.

“A lot of people thought I was making a big mistake,” said Luquette, who at the time was opening for country artists like Sammy Kershaw, Joe Diffie and Terry Clark.

But Luquette followed his dream and completed Marine Corps basic training and the School of Infantry and was assigned to TOW Platoon, Headquarters Company, 23rd Marines, in Broussard, La. Now, as a reserve Marine, he

is living two dreams.

“Joining the Marine Corps has matured me a lot,” said Luquette. “It instilled discipline and leadership in me that has helped me in my music. The things I have done in the Marine Corps have inspired me to write new music... experiences, like being far from home and seeing the things we fight for as Marines.”

Luquette is currently working on a song that talks about the traditions of the Marine Corps. Lyrics describe a young man who sees the flag raising at Iwo Jima and benefits from the experience of a WWII veteran. That young man then goes on to do great things.

These lyrics don’t stray too far from Luquette’s own life. The inspiration for him to join the Marine Corps stemmed from his grandfather, a Korean War veteran, and his older brother, Lance Cpl. Kent Luquette, who joined just three months before Blake.

Luquette is now influencing others to join “his beloved Corps.” He is a

recruiter’s aid at Recruiting Substation Lafayette. Luquette’s recruiter, Staff Sgt. Chin Pak, asked him if he would like to talk to others about the Marine Corps.

“It was definitely something I wanted to do,” said Luquette. “A lot of people in the area know me and realize that it’s possible to do two things at the same time. They look at me and say ‘he’s playing country music and is a Marine’ and it helps them realize they can live out all their dreams.”

Luquette’s two dreams and careers came together in November when he performed at Recruiting Station New Orleans’ birthday ball. In front of his fellow Marines, Luquette played the guitar and sang “Proud to be an American” and “The Star Spangled Banner.”

“It was the first time my music and the Marine Corps came together for me,” said Luquette, who was promoted to lance corporal December 1. “It meant a lot to me to be able to play for my fellow Marines. I’d like to entertain Marines worldwide someday. Everything I sang came from the heart and it made me feel really proud that I am a U.S. Marine.”



Official Marine Corps Photo



Photo courtesy of Blake Luquette



Photo courtesy of Blake Luquette

New utilities for the 21st century



Sgt. Jennifer M. Antoine



ICB/JDB
Rough Side Out

The new Marine Corps combat utility uniform incorporates a number of changes and features to better serve Marines.

IMPROVED COMBAT UTILITY

Function

- Wrinkle free and permanent press crease
- Angled chest pockets increases usability under body armor
- Added upper sleeve pockets for quick access to essential gear
- Non-snagging sleeve cuff
- Tuck-in blouse option
- Rigger's belt compatible belt loops
- Elasticized cargo pocket opening to reduce loss of gear in prone position
- Maintain preferred button pocket closures
- Eliminate low utility features; bottom blouse pockets, trouser blousing tapes

Visibility

- Standard issue field boonie cover
- Issue woodland and desert camo for readiness
- More effective camouflage; dry and wet
- Subdued officer rank

Comfort

- Maintain current sizes with potential to add female sizes

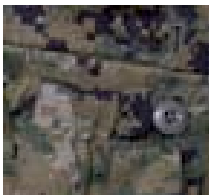
- Lightweight matching blouse for comfort

IMPROVED DURABILITY

- Increased durability of trouser fabric
- Permanent press fabric eliminated degradation from commercial pressing and starch
- Integrated elastic waist adjustment eliminated wear and tear from metal side buckles
- Incorporated angled knee patches, reshaped seat patch and stronger stitching to reduce fabric tears on seams

UNIQUE & DISTINCTIVE MARINE APPEARANCE

- Standard issue field boonie cover
- Camouflage pattern and color
- Self fabric/angled name and service tape
- Maintain sleeve roll and bloused trouser
- Velcro chest pocket closure
- Improve blouse and trouser color match
- Embroidered eagle, globe, and anchor on blouse and covers



Elasticized Cargo
Pocket



No Snag Cuff
Closure



Embroidered
Eagle, Globe &
Anchor



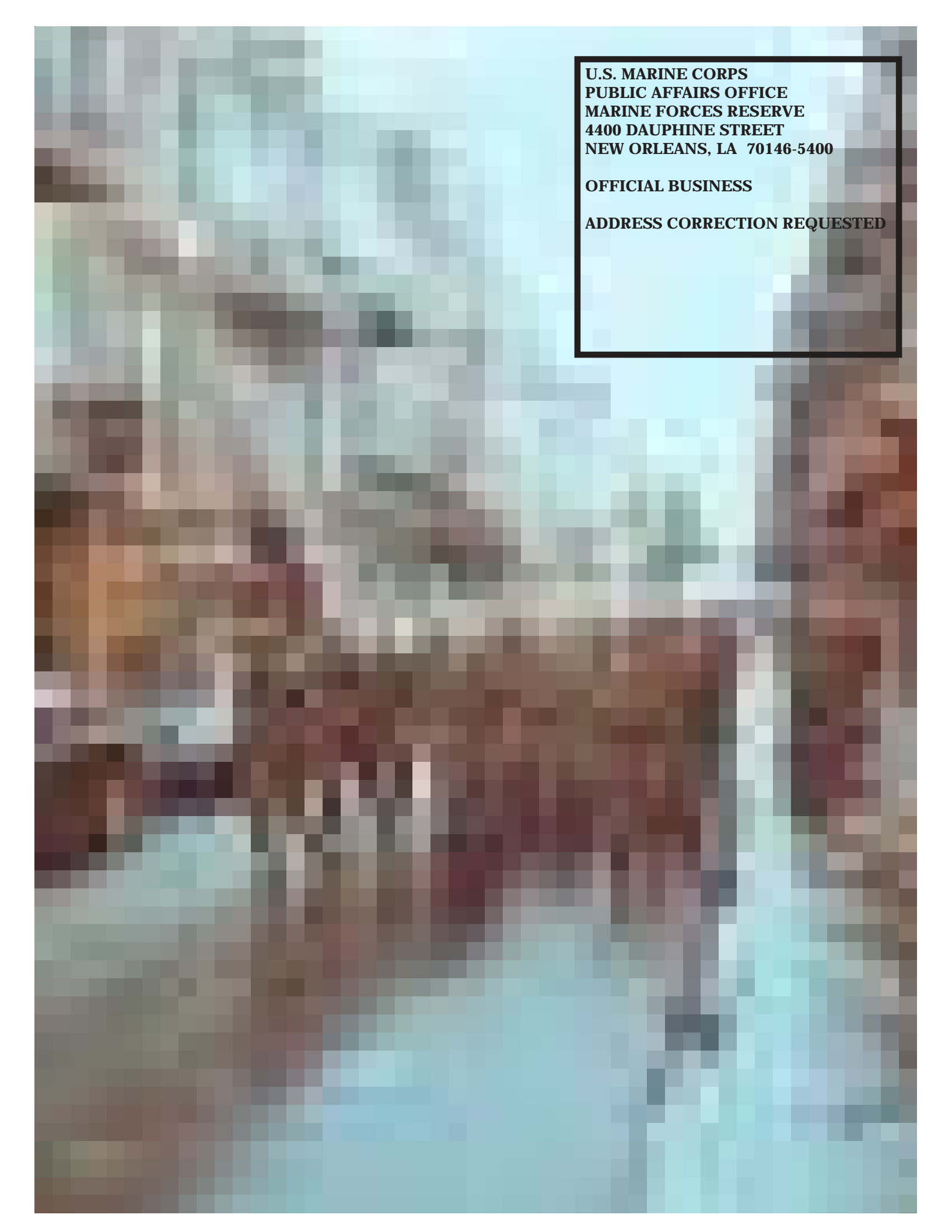
Elbow and
Knee Padding



Angled Shoulder
pocket



Elasticized
Waistband



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